

**Mid-term review  
ProFARM  
CARE Sierra Leone**

***Impact Assessment and  
Recommendations for ProFARM, CARE and M&E  
- Final version -***

**Commissioner: CARE Sierra Leone**

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May 2007  
*Report no: 2007-03***

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# Contents

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Preface.....	2
Executive summary.....	3
Introduction.....	4
CARE Sierra Leone	4
The PROFARM Project	4
The Objectives of this Mid-Term Review	5
Principal findings.....	6
1. Project progress	6
a. Effectiveness.....	6
b. Impact.....	10
c. Sustainability.....	11
d. Efficiency.....	11
e. Relevance.....	12
f. Evolving context: decentralization.....	13
2. Recommendations	14
a. Recommendations for the remaining period of the project life of ProFARM.....	14
b. Recommendations for the CARE program in general.....	20
3. M&E Capacity building in Care	22
a. ProFarm staff participation in the evaluation process.....	22
b. Document all the methodology and tools as an annex of the final report.....	22
c. Make recommendations for the final ProFARM evaluation.....	22
Annex 1. Terms of Reference.....	26
Annex 2. Detailed Methods.....	30
Complete evaluation	30
Data sources for a complete evaluation	31
Choice of villages	31
Subjects discussed in village focus groups	31
Discussions with partners	33
Restitution and discussion with CARE staff in Bo and Freetown	34
Analysis and presentation of discussion results	35
Focus group discussion guideline	35
ProFARM Logframe, revised version October 2005	39
Annex 3. Detailed Results.....	42



# Preface

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It was a pleasure to work on this mid-term review of the ProFARM project. The feeling that some of the recommendations for further project implementation may increase its eventual impact is very rewarding for an evaluator. I thank in particular the community members for their the enthusiastic reception in the villages - I should forward their gratitude to the dedicated ProFARM field staff, who were very helpful during the field visits. I thank Peter Gombo, M&E Officer of ProFARM, and Alusine Kamara, CARE driver, for the good company during the field visits. Other ProFARM and CARE staff I would like to thank: Tedla Assefa, Project Manager ProFARM; Abu Mustafa, Assistant Project Manager ProFARM; Ahmed Ag Aboubacrine, DM&E Coordinator; Amani M'Bale, Youth and Livelihoods Coordinator; and Garth Van't Hul, Assistant Country Director; Ludger Nieman, Assistant Programme Coordinator CARE NL; and the other ProFARM and CARE staff that contributed to the discussions in the field and during the restitutions in Bo and Freetown.

The EU is acknowledged for the financial support of the ProFARM project in general and for this mid-term review in particular.

## *Guide to the reader*

I followed the outline as recommended in the CARE Evaluation Policy<sup>1</sup>, which means that in the short main text you will find a very brief introduction with the objectives of this review, followed immediately by the principle findings. This allows the reader to get to the conclusions quickly without having to go through the detailed methodology and detailed results. In the Annexes, the original terms of reference, the detailed methodology and the detailed results are presented. This allows the interested reader to (among other things) follow in a transparent way how the project beneficiaries and project partners have indeed contributed to these conclusions. In addition, the reader may want to draw his or her own conclusions.

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<sup>1</sup> CI Evaluation Policy (050428)



# Executive summary

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The CARE project 'Promoting Food Access, Rights and Community Mobilization' (ProFARM) supports farmer groups to 1) become more food, and 2) improve community leadership and develop external institutional linkages for future development. The project works in 150 villages in 3 chiefdoms of Sierra Leone, from February 2005 to December 2007.

The objectives of this mid-term review were to evaluate project progress, to formulate recommendations, and to build capacity of Care staff in M&E. Focus group discussions were held in 12 project villages and 2 non-project villages. Discussions were held with staff of the Ministry of Agriculture and Food Security (MAFS), the District Council, CARD, and CARE.

The project is effective: both food security and local governance have improved. Villages have not yet developed institutional linkages with other service providers. The project has a positive impact and contributes to food security beyond the 150 target villages. The project is technically, economically, environmentally and socio-culturally sustainable. The institutional sustainability is unsure and partly depends on MAFS involvement after project closure. The project is efficient: farmer benefits of improved food production is expected to outweigh project costs in only 2-3 years. The project is relevant, for the beneficiaries, for the government policy and for CARE's strategy. The main feature of the evolving context is the decentralisation, in which farmer communities have little faith.

A number of recommendations for ProFARM are made. The project can increase impact by facilitating project villages to assist non-project villages. The relevance can be increased by allowing flexibility in the budget: for some villages drinking water is more urgent than market stores. A more flexible group approach should allow 'new members' to either join existing groups or set up new groups. Villages should be assisted in creating linkages with other service providers for future development. MAFS and District Council staff requested a more intensive communication and coordination with ProFARM. More use of farmer field schools (FFS) can be made by allowing non-project farmers to participate and by installing one FFS in each community. Farmers, especially women, requested for training in marketing skills. An exit strategy should be developed, including a handing over of revolving funds. Finally, given the successes and the challenges, I recommend a (budget-neutral) extension of ProFARM beyond December 2007, to increase project impact.

Recommendations for the CARE programme in general include: maintain the successful combination of food security and local governance; work on stronger partnerships to improve institutional sustainability; expand food security activities to other chiefdoms; look into possibilities of agricultural mechanisation; and don't implement projects through Ward Councillors yet.

One M&E Officer has successfully participated in this evaluation and has acquired additional knowledge and skills about monitoring and about the final evaluation.



# Introduction

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## CARE Sierra Leone

The Country Office's long range mission statement is to: address the root causes of poverty and suffering through capacity building, advocacy and partnership in order that vulnerable, disadvantaged and marginalized people are empowered to participate effectively in achieving livelihood security and realizing their right to live with dignity.

CARE Sierra Leone has been implementing a wide array of development interventions in Sierra Leone over the past decades focusing primarily on food security, building and road infrastructure, water and sanitation and preventive health care. During the civil war, interventions were mainly relief oriented. Since the official end of the war in 2002, CARE Sierra Leone has successfully transitioned its programmers from relief oriented to developmental focus.

What this means for current projects and especially for new projects is that the project approaches gradually move away from free distribution of food, seed or other inputs and move towards strategies that can be continued and replicated on a larger scale after project closure. These more sustainable strategies may include e.g. setting up revolving fund schemes and collaborating with national institutions as project partners.

## The PROFARM Project

The project Promoting Food Access, Rights and Community Mobilization (ProFARM) intends to support farmer groups in 150 marginalised villages in 3 chiefdoms (Gbo in Bo District, Gbonkolenken in Tonkolili District, and Dasse in Moyamba District) of Sierra Leone to become increasingly self-reliant in food production and more secure in their access to food. This specific objective is to be achieved by increasing food production, reducing pre- and post harvest losses, increasing market access and improving the diet.

At the same time the project seeks to support Sierra Leone's transition to sustainable development by enhancing the capacity of community leadership to practice accountable and responsive governance and develop external institutional linkages for future development.

This specific objective is to be achieved by setting up inclusive farmer groups having members of all strata of the community, and by assisting farmer groups to initiate and participate in development programmes supported by various institutions (other than CARE). This three-year project started in February 2005 and will end in December 2007.

The ProFARM Logical Framework is presented in as last section in Annex 2 'Detailed Methods'.



## The Objectives of this Mid-Term Review

These objectives include the main elements of the Terms of Reference and the outcome of the discussion with Gert Van't Hul and Ahmed Ag Aboubacrine in Freetown before starting the review.

1. Evaluate project progress up to now:
  - a. Effectiveness: the achievement of the specific objectives
  - b. Impact: first indication of project contribution to the overall objective
  - c. Sustainability: will benefits continue after project closure
  - d. Efficiency: make an attempt to compare farmers benefits with project costs
  - e. Evolving context: decentralization, elections, challenges encountered and those that lie ahead, and how this context may influence project success.
2. Formulate recommendations:
  - a. For the remaining period of the project life of ProFARM, (to ensure it remains relevant and appropriate throughout its lifecycle and beyond.)
  - b. For the CARE program in general, and for other projects and other communities considering food security and governance in particular.
3. M&E Capacity building in Care:
  - a. ProFarm staff participation in the evaluation process; build the capacity of one ME Officer in understanding those tools.
  - b. Document all the methodology and tools as an annex of the final report.
  - c. Make recommendations for the final ProFARM evaluation.



# Principal findings

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Following the objectives of this review presented in the introduction, the principle findings are listed below.

## 1. Project progress

### a. Effectiveness

ProFARM is effective in achieving the specific objectives: improving food security and improving local governance.

For each underlying project output, beneficiaries indicated the change over time, what project assistance contributed most to this change, and what project assistance next year could enhance this change even more.

#### *Effects identified by the communities*

In group discussions in 12 project villages, beneficiaries identified what they considered the main effects of the project, including unexpected effects and negative effects. The effect first mentioned was often related to food security (8/12 villages), sometimes to governance (2/12 vil.) or to constructions (2/12 vil.). When more effects were mentioned, ‘working together’ and ‘unity in the village’ scored equally high as ‘seed’ or ‘tools’.

Unexpected effects overlap with the expected effects. Some remarkable unexpected effects are: project tools allows them to burry their dead, to clean the town and to widen the road; also non-farmer group members and handicapped benefit from the project; a union is formed linking different farmer groups of different communities, and a women’s group started a loan scheme for their members.

Most villages did not indicate negative effects. One aspect that has been mentioned as ‘negative effect’ in one village, is that farmers who did not join farmer groups at the start of the project can not join existing groups nor are they assisted to form a new group. This can be interpreted as a shortcoming of the group-focused strategy that failed to be flexible. Another negative effect was that a neighboring non-project village was jealous and not willing to work together on repairing a road.

#### *Food security*

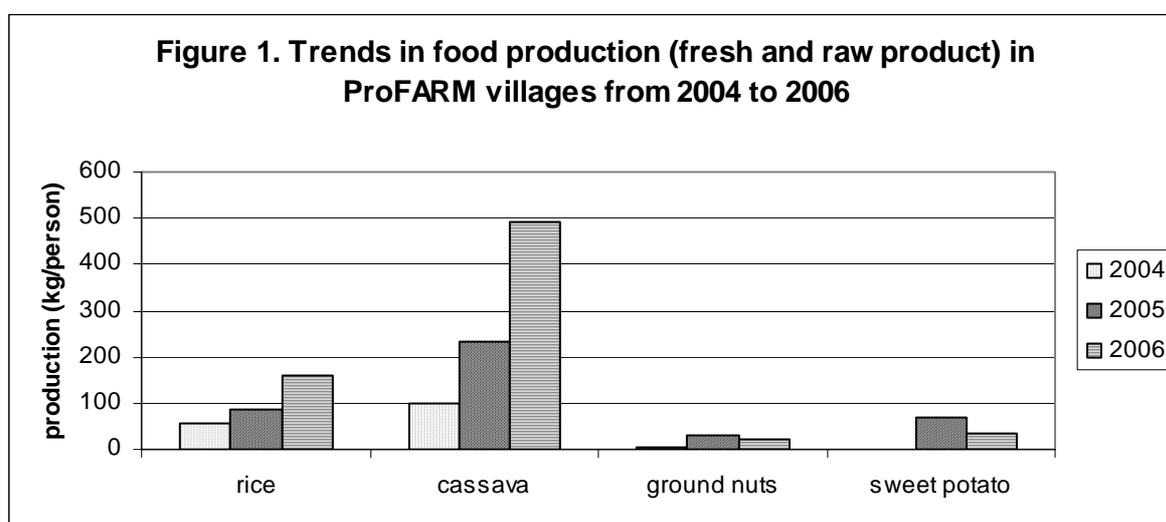
Food security has improved. When comparing the baseline survey of 2005 (330 households, data seem reliable) with the 2 market surveys of 2006 and 2007 (39 households, some inconsistent data), we see a spectacular increase (more than doubling) of food production in only 2 years (see Figure 1). The district and national data also show an improvement from



about 40% food self sufficiency in 2004 to about 70% in 2006, an improvement that is not as spectacular as the improvement in the ProFARM communities (MAFFS staff, personal communications).

Without exception the group discussions confirmed the improvement in food security. In 2004, most farmers experienced a food shortage of at least 2 months (July – August), in which they ate at the most one meal a day. Now only few farmers expect a food shortage for 2007.

The project outputs and activities that, according to farmers, contributed most to improving food security are, in order of importance: rice, cassava, group-work, valley cultivation and unity in the village. This shows the interaction between governance, group work and food production.



In two non-project villages, the food security situation had not improved as much as in the project villages. The first village had improved water management and rice cultivation in the swamps with help from an EU Food For Work Project. Although food production had increased over the last 3 years, it was still insufficient and all villagers expected to have food shortage this year. Besides, the EU FFW project used to give food and only recently stopped, so the food availability was actually lower this year. The second village relied on mining until 1995. Households received 1 bag rice per month from the mining company. Without this, all expect food shortage this year and some even indicated that food production was decreasing over the last 3 years, because of the poor soils.

Assistance that, according to these non-project villages, could increase food production were: groundnut seed, rice seed, project / NGO assistance in general, money to hire work gangs, and fertilizer. Besides, group work, more unity in the village and hard work by the farmers would be needed.

### ***Improved marketing***

The Baseline and Market Surveys show an increase in number of households selling produce, from 30% of the households in 2004 to 61% in 2005, to 64% in 2006.



During group discussions this was confirmed. In one new village where the project had worked only one year (in Dasse 2), people explained that they had increased food production but not yet to a level to sell a surplus. However, in several other villages, more produce was sold now than before.

The more important contributors to this increase were, in order of importance: vegetable gardens, especially pepper that is in high demand; wheelbarrows and bicycles that allow people to sell produce in markets further away, and new potato vines.

### ***Information exchange***

The most important new farm practices that farmers have learnt in this project is, in order of importance: to cultivate rice in swamps (as opposed to upland rice); to transplant rice from a nursery (as opposed to broadcast direct sowing); and to plant rice in rows (as opposed to broadcast sowing).

Both farmer fields schools and mixed farmer groups have benefited from this technical training. In one farmer field school, 6 farmers come from project villages and 6 farmers come from non-project villages; the non-project participants received the short duration Nerica rice seed on loan: an interesting example of how project effect can expand to (i.e. impact) non-project villages.

Before the project, farmers did not receive information about farm practices from anyone. Even MAFFS Extension Agents did not visit these villages. This confirms that CARE has selected marginalized villages where others often don't work. But this also poses a question about the likelihood that MAFFS staff is able to continue working in these (remote) villages after the project stops.

### ***Nutrition***

The change in nutrition did not come out as obvious as the change in food security. Women say they eat healthier than before, although they also indicate that most already ate protein every day before the project started. Women also mention that now they realize better what healthy food is and which food contains protein. They also mention that children are fed more protein now than before. An anecdotal comment made by one woman was that she reduced the use of milk powder, increased the period of breast feeding, and prepares baby food using green vegetables from the project-supported women's vegetable gardens.

The main causes for this healthier diet are: the availability of groundnuts, which are not all sold anymore, and the training on nutrition.

### ***Farmer group work***

Before the project, work gangs and women groups existed that would work in turns on individual fields. The main difference is that these did not work on collective fields and that besides the physical work there were no group discussions.

The new farmer groups that ProFARM supports receives inputs (seed, tools), training, and work on collective fields, especially in valleys with water management, rice and vegetables. Besides, farmers in groups appreciate that group work is more productive than individual work and that group decisions are taken involving the whole group.



### ***Governance and involvement in village decision making***

Before ProFARM started, both women and youth were often not involved in decisions taken at the village level. Besides, there were often conflict in the households and between households, which were often resolved by going to the chief who would demand the payment of fines.

Now, women and youth are much more involved in decision making. Women are also allowed to appoint someone representing their views in meetings. People now know that conflicts can be resolved without paying fines, and that fines demanded by the chief do not automatically all need to be paid. There are more cases and conflicts that are resolved by discussions with a larger group of people, including women and youth. Cases and decisions are written down in the village logbook, introduced by ProFARM.

Examples of decisions in which women and youth are involved now (but not 3 years ago), include: site selection for a project field or store; decisions about conflicts, including wife beating; a payment system in which all contribute something according to their capacity to the young man digging the project well; the use of iron sheets left over from another project for a school; and asking permission to absent from collective work when there were urgent other obligations.

As a result, there are less conflicts now between husband and wife, between households, and even between communities.

The main cause for this improvement, according to the villagers, is the training on human rights and obligations, the awareness of good leadership, and the fact that ProFARM staff is experienced in this matter. Besides, the improved food security has also made it easier for people to sit down and discuss things.

In the two non-project sites, there has not been a favorable change in local governance. In the first village, only a few elder women are involved in village-level decision making, who then inform the other women. Younger women complained that young women and youth in general are not involved in decision making. This situation has not improved over the last three years. In the second village, youth explained that they were not even well informed about decisions taken and about progress in development efforts. On the other hand, they have to show up when the chief demands them e.g. to clean the town. Cases were never resolved without the chief, who would levy fines. The situation has not changed over the last 3 years in this village either.

### ***Village or group involvement in externally supported activities***

None of the villages or farmer groups are yet involved in an initiative linking them to other service providers. There have been a few village initiatives that work without external support (loan and saving group; construction of toilets). However, in discussions this was brought as a concern by most villages: who will assist the village after ProFARM pulls out? How can ProFARM prepare or assist them with linking the village to other service providers, e.g. for a school, health centre, micro-credit, etc.?

It is foreseen that ProFARM assists communities to develop requests (simple proposal, budget) and to contact potential service providers (NaCSA, others).



## **b. Impact**

Although it is early to assess impact, we try to assess the likelihood of the project contribution to the overall objective: “To contribute to the Sierra Leone Government’s effort to attain food security and to enhance good governance”.

A note on terminology and definitions: Although during the field work and the discussions I often used the term ‘impact’ for what happened to the target beneficiaries of the project, I prefer to reserve the term ‘impact’ for the contribution to the overall objective, i.e. at the national level. In stead, the term ‘effectiveness’ in this report is used describe the achievement of the specific (project) objectives, i.e. changes to the target beneficiaries in the 150 project communities.

MAFFS staff confirmed that the efforts by ProFARM, other projects and MAFFS itself, especially in distributing and multiplying seed, improving valley cultivation, and stimulating mechanical cultivation, have all contributed to the improved food security situation of Sierra Leone as a whole. So ProFARM has definitely a positive impact.

However, the project impact in achieving an nation-wide improvement in food security and governance will be limited if benefits will not continue after project closure or if benefits don’t expand to non-project villages. In other words, the impact depends on:

- The sustainability in the target communities, addressed by the technical, economic, socio-cultural and environmental sustainability.
- The expansion or replication beyond the 150 project communities, which is partly addressed by the institutional and policy sustainability.

The different sustainability aspects are discussed in a separate section below. Here we want to mention one particular aspect of expansion and replication outside the project communities.

One strategy to increase the likelihood that some of the project successes be replicated elsewhere is working with partners: CARD for governance issues and MAFFS for agricultural issues. MAFFS is currently setting up and assisting Farmer Field Schools with FAO funding. However, there are signs that are not so promising about continuing effort by MAFFS after project closure: MAFFS agents did not visit the project villages before the project started; the budget of MAFFS is very limited; MAFFS extension agents receive a substantial top-up salary and allowances, making them work almost exclusively for ProFARM.

Another strategy, proposed by farmers themselves during group discussions, is that farmers in project-assisted communities assist farmers in non-project communities.



## **c. Sustainability**

### ***Technical sustainability***

None of the farmers foresaw technical problems in continuing the improved farm practices after project closure. Some farmers already copy improved practices individually.

### ***Economic sustainability***

They all foresaw that the sale for agricultural produce will allow them to buy new seed and new tools when necessary.

### ***Environmental sustainability***

Environmental problems were not expected. On the contrary, with the gradual move from upland to lowland farming, the pressure on upland forest would decrease.

[However, I was personally very surprised to see the scale of deforestation and burning of fallow vegetation that was taking place, which I think will be a serious problem in 5-10 years time. Although this is not an environmental effect of the ProFARM project, I wish that any agricultural project would address this issue. FB]

### ***Socio-cultural sustainability***

According to the farmers, farmer groups are expected to continue functioning because there is a functional executive.

### ***Institutional sustainability***

It is not sure to whether institutions are sufficiently involved and developed during the project period, allowing these institutions to continue functioning after project closure. More specifically, the MAFFS Extension Agents will have learnt a lot from their involvement in the ProFARM farmer field schools, but many other staff from MAFFS have not been involved.

## **d. Efficiency**

Project efficiency can be calculated in various ways and is often used to compare different projects or different project components with similar results or outcome:

- Compare the activities with costs (e.g. cost per farmer with new rice seed)
- Compare the outputs with costs (e.g. costs per farmer field school per year)
- Compare outcome or impact with costs. This is a particular efficiency calculation that is sometimes called 'cost-effectiveness'.

Although I don't have enough data and time to make a good cost-effectiveness calculation, I find it worthwhile to show here as an example how it can be done (Table 1). This cost-effectiveness calculation allows to estimate the 'pay-back period': the period after which farmer benefits outweigh the project costs. The Swedish donor Sida, who funds Agro Eco's EPOPA program in Africa, very much appreciates these calculations. I recommend to repeat



this exercise more seriously as part of the final project evaluation, after the ‘project effect household survey’ has been done.

ProFARM has more outcome than increased food production alone, but we limit ourselves here to food production as a quantitative indicator suitable for efficiency calculations (Table 1). The starting point in this example is the increase in rice production when comparing the market studies with the baseline study (even though market study data are not very accurate). However, not all of this increase can be attributed to the project. The baseline scenario (without project) at the district level also shows an increase in food production, from 40 to 70% self-sufficiency. The difference in increase is what I attributed to the project. (This way I underestimate the project effect because the project contributes modestly to the increase at the district level). The next steps are correcting for milled / un-milled rice, the number of beneficiaries in the project area, calculating the price per kg, and an rough estimation of the total value of all crops compared to the value of rice alone. I very much simplified this by assuming that all crop value together would be twice the value of rice alone. The most important omission are the production costs: hiring of people, costs of seed etc. When redoing this exercise, all direct production costs (but excluding the unpaid farmer’s own labor) should be taken into account.

Table 1. Example of cost-effectiveness and ‘pay-back period’ calculation, comparing the farmer benefits of improved crop production with the project costs.

Increased rice prod (un-milled)	104	(kg / person)	(190% increase)
Attribution to project	60%	(compare national data: from 40% to 70% self suff.)	
increased rice prod by project	63	(kg / person)	
idem, milled (60%)	38	(kg / person)	
population in ProFarm	33.600	(persons)	
increased rice prod by project	1.273.680	(kg total in project area)	
price of rice in hunger season	500	(Leones / cup) (cup =0,67 kg)	(polished rice?)
price milled rice in Euro	0,18	(E / kg)	
gross value rice	227.443	(Euro, value rice)	(no prod. costs deducted!)
assume all crops = 2x rice	454.886	(Euro, value all crops)	
project costs so far	945.000	(Euro in 2 years)	
payback period crops alone	2,1	years	

The conclusion is much more positive than I had expected. The example shows that in about 2-3 years the farmer benefits of improved production already outweigh the project costs. As a comparison, most of our Agro Eco projects in Africa (EPOPA), which purely focus on export of organic products and farmer income, have a ‘pay-back period’ that between 2 and 5 years. Besides, ProFARM has more benefits than increased food production alone.

## e. Relevance

The project evaluation should look at whether the objectives are (still) relevant:

- For the country policy
- For the donor policy
- For the beneficiaries



From the discussions with MAFFS and the District Council, improving food security and local governance still have a high priority in the national and district policies.

The CARE Strategic Plan 2007-2011 has identified a number of strategic directions and objectives. Improving food security, one of the two ProFARM specific objectives, is as such not one of the main strategic directions or objectives, but it contributes to another identified objective: youth having increased access to livelihood opportunities.

Responsive and transparent governance, one of ProFARM specific objectives, is one of the strategic directions and thus still relevant in CARE's policy.

During group discussions in the villages, both food security and governance were very much appreciated and considered relevant for the target group. However, in some cases other issues may have become even more relevant. E.g. in some project villages, no food shortage was expected this year but there was a serious problem with drinking water. Issues, other than food security and governance, that were brought up included, in order of importance: school (5 villages), toilets (5), clinic (4), road (2), adult literacy courses (2).

My conclusion is that ProFARM's objectives 'food security' and 'governance' are still relevant. One question that CARE should ask itself is:

- Do we prefer to increase support (even beyond project objectives) to the 150 project communities (target communities first; expand project objectives)?
- Or do we prefer to limit the project to food security and governance, and increase impact beyond the 150 project communities (project objectives first; expand target group).

#### **f. Evolving context: decentralization**

Villagers explained that there was no community development support from the Ward Councilors. The Councilor, elected through the district block system, often lives in Freetown on another town, hardly visits the area, and is often even unknown in the village. Apparently some Councilors are disappointed about their benefits: they don't receive a salary but receive only sitting and travel allowances. So most Councilors have another job.

More in particular, there has been at least one Ward Councilor that hoped to receive benefits from ProFARM, e.g. by being the intermediate to distribute inputs or to award construction jobs. Since ProFARM explained that this project does not work that way, the relation between this Councilor and ProFARM has not been very good.

The elections next year will be different (constituency system) and Councilors may feel more responsible for 'their' area, and have more contact with the people, according to the District Council. However, the villagers don't expect any good from this. Some even fear a divide in the community along political party preferences.



## 2. Recommendations

### a. Recommendations for the remaining period of the project life of ProFARM

These recommendations are based on the discussions with farmers in 12 project villages, with project partners (MAFFS, CARD, District Council) and with CARE staff during the field visits and during the restitutions in Bo and Freetown. Recommendations are organized in order of importance, i.e. the number of times this issue was raised.

***ProFARM can encourage project villages to assist non-project villages with advice and seed on loan, already in this coming year (6 Villages, Partners, Care)***

Objective: To increase impact beyond the effect in 150 project villages

Description:

Project villages can select a neighboring non-project village and discuss with them the possibilities to help with food security. The help will include technical advice, organizational advice (group work), and seed on loan. Possibly, some tools could be provided by the project (on loan?). Not only will the new village pay back the seed to the project village, but the new village will also be encouraged to then help another new community after one year.

Justification:

- When asked what could be done with limited support in non-project communities, several project villages proposed spontaneously to help other villages with advice and seed on loan, as long as the two villages understand and trust each other. If this works, we increase the target villages with limited effort.
- Care staff is capable and motivated to guide these discussions and agreements between villages.
- The project budget will be sufficient because this additional activity does not need to be expensive (currently budget is under spent).

Discussion with Care staff:

Project staff sees it is desirable and possible to expand this way. An old and new community can make a bilateral agreement (facilitated by Care). Although the move from relief and free inputs to development is well understood, there is a fear that seed given by ProFARM on loan will not be accepted, because even in new villages they know that inputs were previously given for free. However, if a project village gives this to a new village on loan, this will be acceptable. Besides, there are examples where seed on loan was better used (less wasted) than free seed. The quantities of seed per new community can be much smaller than what was given in the ProFARM villages.

Last personal comments:

I see this as the greatest opportunity to increase impact – suggested by the project villages. I don't know yet what to do with the tools, because I would like the assistance to come from



the project village, and not directly from ProFARM. Could a 'daughter project', clearly distinguished from ProFARM, provide tools on loan, or shall we try without tools?

***More flexible allocation of budget according to the priorities of beneficiaries: especially for water (7 villages, Care)***

Objective: To increase the relevance of project outputs for beneficiaries

Description:

Discuss in each village the availability of project funds (for constructions) and the priorities in that village. The project can then shift from planned expenses that are less urgent to unplanned expenses that are more urgent, as long as they serve the project objectives.

Justification:

In several communities, people expressed an urgent need for safe drinking water (there were even casualties from Cholera). Although the baseline survey has identified a large number of villages without safe drinking water, only a limited number of project wells are foreseen. On the other hand, several market stores are planned but are not yet constructed. A well costs about 6 million L; a market store about 18 mL.

Project staff proposed to use some budget planned for market stores for water wells.

Discussion with staff (and Ludgar from CARE NL)

It is not sure how easily the EU can accept changes in expenses. If funds are moved from one budget line to another budget line that existed already in the original budget, it will be easier than when new budget lines are proposed. There is already a budget line for water wells.

***Allow non-group-members to join or create a farmer group (8 villages, Care)***

Objective: To increase good governance and inclusiveness farmer groups.

Description:

Up to now, there seemed to have been little room for non-group members to join existing farmer groups or to set up a new (project supported) farmer group. ProFARM should look at possibilities to support new groups and perhaps discuss with existing groups the possibilities to open up for new members. This is especially important for households with no member in any group (in larger villages).

It remains to be seen how new groups can receive support. Does the project still have room for support? Some existing groups offered seed on loan to new groups. Will new groups accept that there will be no more free inputs?

Justification:

There are different reasons why farmers have not joined farmer groups, including:

- They did not expect that these groups would be beneficial (also given some bad experiences with previous projects).
- They were not in the village at the time ProFARM started.
- They were pregnant or ill during the formation of groups.



- There were more interested farmers than places in groups (in larger communities).
  - There was a miscommunication about the number of groups that would be supported.
- These reasons should not exclude farmers from joining or setting up a group in the future. All farmers (including group members) prefer that new groups be formed, rather than opening existing groups. This has to do with the enormous labor investment the existing groups have already made. During the restitution meetings, CARE staff made clear that the project should indeed look at a more flexible approach.

**Personal comment:**

I was surprised to see how the project set-up did not foresee enough room for new members, and how during the field visit most farmers and staff accepted this as ‘the farmer’s own fault’. It does not match with the idea of inclusiveness. I agree that in villages where at least one member of all households is included, all villagers (indirectly) benefit from these groups.

***Help communities with linkages to other service providers (9 villages)***

**Objective:** to increase relevance and empower communities to mobilize assistance

**Description:**

ProFARM will help communities to discuss their needs for assistance, to explain the possibilities for external support, to develop a request (simple proposal and budget), and to contact potential service providers (such as NaCSA and others). This may have to pass through government structures (although communities have no confidence in Ward Councilors!).

**Justification:**

Most villages have expressed their concern about how to get assistance from other service providers after ProFARM closes. The project has planned to help communities to create these external linkages, but not much has been done yet.

**Personal comment:**

Don’t expect too much from the external linkages. It is very important to help with linkages, but the budget (e.g. from NaCSA) available per community may be disappointingly low.

***Example of linkage 1: micro credit schemes***

**Objective:** income generation and empowerment (and indirectly food security)

**Description:**

ProFARM can find out the possibilities and conditions of existing (external) micro credit schemes. Also, ProFARM can find out the possibilities for community owned loan and saving schemes, especially in communities with processing equipment, which already have a bank account and a management committee

**Justification:**

Especially women expressed their interest in micro credit to diversify income and set up businesses. They explained: “when women have money they are listened to”.



Because the project communities are already well organized and supervised by the project, the risk of not groups credits

Discussion with Care staff:

Group credit is more successful than individual credit.

***Improve communication and coordination with District Staff (1 Council, 2 MAFFS).***

Objectives: To improve relations with partners and assure continued partner involvement after project closure.

Description:

Moyamba District would like CARE / ProFARM to be registered as an NGO at the District level, so the project plan are taken into account in the overall Development Plan, and the district is able to monitor all NGO activities.

Both Moyamba District and MAFFS wants to be better informed about ProFARM activities. Monthly reports from the Extension Agents don't automatically reach the Blok Extension Supervisor or staff at the MAFFS District office. Councilors do not automatically report all field activities to the District. ProFARM can discuss with the District and MAFFS about who should receive copies of what type of progress report.

Moyamba District would like ProFARM to attend the monthly NGO meetings (ProFARM has only recently started to do so). It would be good that someone from the ProFARM mgt attends next meeting (28 March), after which one district ProFARM field staff member can continue attending the subsequent meetings.

Discussion with CARE staff:

CARE is already registered at the national level (Ministry of development and economic affairs / NGO desk), but apparently the information is not getting through to the district level. Besides, the District should coordinate all NGO activities (District act 2004) and want a database of all NGOs. CARE should find out whether or not it is necessary to register at the District level and take contact with the District.

My personal comments

Even if it not strictly necessary to register at the district level, I would still do this to improve the relations with the district. The costs are only 50,000 L.

Even though part of the lack of information about ProFARM may be due to internal communication problems within the government structure

***Include non-project members in farmer field schools (FFS) (2 villages)***

Objective: To increase impact of improved farm practices to non-project villages

Description: Discuss with FFS the possibility and benefits to open up FFS for non-project participants.



Justification: In one FFS (Dasse) with 16 participants, 8 are from project villages and 8 are from non-project villages: it works. More generally, some people from non-project villages already attend training sessions in project villages.

***Increase the number of farmer field schools fields to one in each community (1 village, Care, MAFFS)***

Objectives: To increase sustainability by greater ownership and care for FFS fields, and to increase effectiveness by more experiments in more FFS fields.

Description:

Rather than inviting all FFS members e.g. every 2 weeks to the same site in the same village, the FFS could rotate: meet one time in village A to discuss crop X and the next time in village B discussing crop Y.

Justification:

Project staff explained that this was a request from FFS members in villages without an FFS field: to feel the owner of the field. MAFFS explained that their long-term target was to have one FFS per village, managed by a farmer-facilitator.

Expanding the number of fields used by the same FFS involves only a little additional expenses for inputs. The time and travel required from staff are likely the same.

Discussion with project staff:

One year for a new FFS is short. They would like to see the FFS receiving longer support than one year. It is foreseen that MAFFS continues the FFS after project closure.

Personal comment:

Although I like the idea, which is easy to organize and not expensive, I think that involving more participants, also from non-project villages, is more important than providing more facilities to the existing FFS members.

***Improve marketing and business skills (2 villages, Care)***

Objective: To increase income from marketing

Description:

Training in marketing and business skills, including cost price and profit calculations. Regularly informing farmers about prices of different products at different markets, e.g. through local radio emissions.

Justification:

Marketing is new for some farmers. Especially women asked for training in marketing and business skills. Farmers who don't bring produce to main markets themselves are still in a poor position for negotiations.



Personal comment:

This activity, successfully supported by USAID in several African countries, helps farmers with planning their production, sales and with negotiations with buyers and middlemen.

### ***Develop an exit strategy (Care)***

Objective: To assure continuation of benefits after project closure

Description:

Project staff should discuss with communities and systematically identify for all of the project achievements (results, constructions, revolving fund schemes, group work, etc.) the possible problems that beneficiaries may encounter after project closure. Then, (additional) project activities will have to be identified to minimize the risk that these problems will occur. In a large part, the role of the project will have to be taken over by e.g. the village development committee, the MAFFS extension agent, a (section) management committee in charge of revolving fund schemes, etc. These organizations and individuals may need to be trained and their roles and responsibilities need to be explained to the whole community.

Justification and discussion with project staff:

Although the mid-term review evaluated the expected sustainability of the results and objectives (food security and governance), the review did not consider the underlying achievements (structures, wells, loan schemes, group work).

There was a fear that some problems may occur after project closure: that wells and other structures will not be maintained, that revolving fund schemes will fail, that some individuals will falsely claim inputs, tools, structures or even access revolving fund accounts. In the previous project (FS-RBA), a workshop was held to develop an exit strategy. Care staff recommended to hold an exit strategy meeting for FroFARM.

Personal comment:

Besides a staff workshop, proposed by project staff, I think that discussing an exit strategy needs to be done in each of the communities. There may also a big difference in risks between the communities, and thus different needs in preparing for project closure.

### ***Hand-over management of revolving fund schemes of processing equipment (specific part of exit strategy) (Care)***

Objective: Assure continued management of schemes after project closure

Description:

In villages where the project has provided processing equipment, there is a Memorandum of Understanding and a Management Committee in place to recover the loan and the fees paid for usage, with the objective to buy a new machine for another community. Project staff is now monitoring the functioning of this revolving fund scheme (sometimes called loan-recovery schemes), but should foresee and prepare others to continue monitoring after project closure.



ProFARM should look at other existing initiatives with equipment from revolving fund schemes (government) that can be looked at as examples. Possibilities are linking the schemes with existing structures, e.g. at the section or district level. This may involve capacity building by the project. At the same time, all community members need to understand the role and responsibilities and the legal value of the MoU.

Justification and discussion with project staff:

The review did not consider these schemes in the discussion, but the project staff in Bo raised this issue. There is a risk that the schemes fail after project closure, or that an influential individual may claim the machine. Some staff wanted continued monitoring by Care after the end of ProFARM (or to extend ProFARM for monitoring. Others suggested that CARE should not be involved in continued monitoring.

My personal comment:

What is the motivation for a committee to repay into a revolving fund and collect usage fees for buying a new machine that they then give away to another community?

### ***ProFARM project extension beyond December 2007***

With the current level of expenditure and the remaining budget, the project could be extended with several months beyond the original project end date of December 2007, in a budget-neutral way. Although we have not explicitly discussed project extension, in several discussions a project extension was mentioned as desirable. Looking at the successes of the project, both in methodology and results, and looking at the challenges and motivation to expand beyond the original 150 project villages, I would strongly recommend a project extension to increase project impact.

## **b. Recommendations for the CARE program in general**

These are recommendations for the CARE program in general and for other projects and other communities considering food security and governance in particular.

### ***Keep the link between food security and local governance (CARD)***

Explicitly mentioned by CARD, but also implicitly mentioned in villages: there is a positive interaction between the two specific objectives food security and local governance. Farmers realize that working together is more productive than individual work. Once food security has improved, people are more willing to discuss together. Once women are earning some money, they are better listened to. If a project would target human rights and governance issues without practical agricultural (group) activities, there would not be the same level of interest.

### ***Stronger partnerships***

Working with partnerships with national institutions is a good strategy to assure (some level of) continuation after project closure and multiplication of the efforts outside the original project target area.



The project has to be careful with the ration of project payments to institutions and the own funds of those institutions. In the extreme case of the project paying most costs, the partner is basically working for the project is unlikely to continue or replicate after project closure.

The project also has to involve more staff in the ‘on the job training’ than strictly necessary for project implementation during the project, to increase the chances that staff replicate (some of the) activities outside the project area.

Compared to the ProFARM project, where only few MAFFS staff (2 Extension Agents per FFS) are paid substantial top-up salaries (US\$ 45 per month) and allowances, I would recommend to be more modest with additional payments per agent, but in stead include more MAFFS staff that will be exposed to new extension approaches. However, one has to find a balance: lower top-up salaries may be insufficient to cover the additional costs or motivate MAFFS staff.

### ***Expand food security project to other Chiefdoms (District, 3 MAFFS)***

Although one recommendation made for the ProFARM project was to expand from project villages to neighboring non-project villages, by facilitating village to village training and seed-on-loan support, this will not reach all other chiefdoms in the 3 districts.

### ***Mechanization to increase food production (3 villages, MAFFS, CARE)***

Both farmers and staff mentioned tractors as an effective way to increase the area under crops. There is enough land available, but labor to cultivate the heavy soils of valley and ‘bulli’ land is limited. The government already has a system with tractors whereby farmers only pay fuel. Some NGOs even pay the fuel for farmers. I would consider a few issues before investing in mechanization:

- What are the real total costs (including depreciation, maintenance and fuel) of cultivating one hectare of land mechanically and how does this compare with labor costs of one hectare manual cultivation?
- What percentage of farmers are now being assisted by the current mechanization program and how many tractors would we need to serve ‘all’ farmers?
- Which types of farmer benefit now from the current mechanization schemes: the larger farms with larger and accessible fields, or also the smaller farms with smaller, less accessible fields?
- Is there a risk of farmers being privileged by a scarcity of mechanization services?
- What are the possibilities of animal traction (ox-ploughs)? As an example: in Mali, tractors did not turn out to be profitable compared to animal traction, but I realize that the climate in Sierra Leone may not be as favorable for oxen.

### ***No project implementation through the Ward Councilors yet***

For the time being: villages have no confidence in Ward Councilors. Farmers don’t even expect an improved relation yet with Ward Councilors after the next elections. However, sooner or later Councilors will have to become more involved in development at the village levels, so Ward Councilors should be involved, event though for the time being they should not yet control project funds, inputs or activities.



### **3. M&E Capacity building in Care**

#### **a. ProFarm staff participation in the evaluation process**

During the whole mid-term review, the ProFARM M&E Officer Peter Gombo was full-time involved and available. This was very useful for the evaluator, while at the same time I estimate that the M&E Officer has learned about evaluation methods. Discussions before the field work included: the project report and logframe, baseline survey, progress reports and market surveys, and indicators / questions for the focus group discussion. During the fieldwork he assisted (together with other Care field staff) as interpreter and discussion facilitator, and in the review of certain questions / discussions points. After the fieldwork he contributed to recommendations for the project in general and for the M&E system in particular.

#### **b. Document all the methodology and tools as an annex of the final report**

The methodology and tools of this evaluation are presented in Annex 2 of this report. Issues include:

- Description of a complete evaluation, as if it were the final evaluation, looking at effectiveness, impact, efficiency, sustainability, relevance. Besides, special emphasis is given to decentralization as part of the evolving context.
- Data sources for a complete evaluation, considering project document, baseline, progress and marketing reports, the anticipated household effect survey, group discussions in villages, discussions with partners, district and national statistics, and policy papers.
- The choice of project villages and non-project villages that were visited.
- List the subjects that needed to be discussed, following the logframe specific objectives and results, taking into account that certain data were present in reports (food production, marketing)
- List of partner staff that we discussed with (CARD, MAFFS, District Council)
- List of CARE staff included in the restitution discussions in Bo and Freetown
- Description of the analysis and presentation of the results in a transparent way.
- Focus group discussion guide, with all subjects and questions.
- The ProFARM LogFrame (revised version) that was the basis of the evaluation and as reference for the recommendations made in the next section.

The detailed results are presented separately in Annex 3.

#### **c. Make recommendations for the final ProFARM evaluation**

Having read the project document and logframe, the baseline study and the suggested effect survey (annexed to the baseline survey), the progress reports and market surveys, and considering what information can be obtained by regular project monitoring, household surveys and focus group discussions, I can make the following recommendations for 1) the



logframe, 2) the indicators, 3) the monitoring, and 4) the final evaluation. For each of these subjects, I will first discuss weak points before making recommendations.

### ***The LogFrame narratives***

As reference, the revised logframe of ProFARM is presented as last section in Annex 2: Detailed Methods. Generally, the narratives (or intervention logic) of objectives and results are OK. The described results are reasonably under project control (as they should be). Just a few comments:

- Specific Objective 1: I would consider the 420 farmer groups as one of the project *outputs* to achieve the specific objective to increase food security in 150 target communities in 3 chiefdoms; I would not present the 420 groups itself as the *specific objective*.
- R 2.1 and R 2.2: I think these results are too vague; the results should be more specific, even in the narrative.

However, I suggest not changing the logframe narratives at this stage with the project already over halfway.

### ***The logframe indicators***

Although the logframe *narratives* were OK, the logframe *indicators* posed several problems and don't match well with the narratives.

- The indicators at the SO1 level seem OK.
- However, several result indicators are too ambitious and not under project control. Remember that *results* are under project control, whereas *outcome* (achievement specific objectives) also depend on whether the beneficiaries actually use the project results. Some result indicators presented in this logframe often refer incorrectly to a higher-level outcome (the outcome of the project result described in the narrative). Examples:
  - OVI R1.1. Reducing food shortage is not under project control. Neither is it contributing to any OVI mentioned under SO1.
  - OVI R1.2. Increased marketing of vegetables is not under project control, but e.g. the number of villages that have access to established markets is.
  - OVI R1.4. Again an example of an indicator that is the eventual effect of R1.4, and not an OVI for R1.4 itself.
  - OVI R2.1. I would like to be more specific about what developmental and social group activities are. Playing football does not say anything about good governance.
- The R should contribute to the SO. It seems as if OVI SO1 and OVI R1.1 are in fact swapped: 'improved production by 30%, etc.' contributes to 'reduced food shortage', and not the other way round.
- Some indicators are too complex to monitor (and should be replaced by 1 or 2 simpler indicators). Examples:
  - OVI R1.1. In 50% households the food shortage period is reduced from 4 to 2 months.
  - OVI R1.3. 20% more farmers exchange info and meet at least 4 x per year.
- Often there is no clear distinction between SO and R. Again, the rule is: R are under project control; SO are not. The R contributes to the SO. Examples:



- OVI SO 1.4: 15% eat healthier diet; OVI R1.4. 30% eat 1 meal with protein every day. One is not causing the other; none of them are under project control.
- Occasionally, the indicator refers to a cause of the narrative (represents 1 levels down in the logframe. Example:
  - OVI SO 2.1. ‘Inclusive farmer groups’ is not a SO but a R, under project control.
- Some indicators have no clear relation with the narrative. Example:
  - OVI SO 2.2. That farmer groups have members form all social strata of the community is under project control (we ask them to) and says nothing about improved leadership or governance. (This could be an OVI for R2.2.)
- Some indicators should be more sensitive so we can expect a change over time. Example:
  - Most people eat protein every day and did this already before the project started. The Baseline study suggested focusing on children as a vulnerable group.

I would make the following recommendations for the logframe indicators:

- For SO1, improved food security, I would add:
  - Total food production per person (from HH effect survey, considering both group members and non-group members – on a sample basis, which can be compared to baseline data, targets and district or national statistics). To set a target will need discussions but I would set it at e.g. a 50% increase compared to the baseline (kg/person/year). It may be useful to convert different staple foods to calories or ‘rice-equivalent’.
  - Percentage of households with at least 2 months of food shortage. Even though we don’t have a baseline or target for it, it is relevant to monitor whether the marginalized also benefit from improved food security.
  - I would not monitor losses. The baseline showed that post-harvest losses are low and pre-harvest losses are too hard to assess. The total food production should be what is harvested (and not include what birds harvested).
  - Review an indicator about a healthy diet, in discussion with the District Nutrition and Health Officer.
- For SO2, improved governance, I would add:
  - The percentage of conflicts that is resolved with discussions including both women and youth.
  - The percentage of conflicts that is resolved without the chief levying a fine. Both indicators can be monitored from the community logbooks.
  - I would maintain the OVI SO 2.2 (F initiatives) and OVI SO 2.1 (inclusiveness) even though I don’t see this as an SO indicator.
- For R 1.1. Improved practices and food production: I would look at: The area (acres) land and the number of farmers for each of the improved practices (valley land, new varieties, vegetables), only of the farmer groups. I would not measure yield or monitor individual households fields: this is done at the SO level.
- For R1.2. Marketing: maintain.
- For R1.3. Information exchange in FFS. I suggest: the percentage farmers attending info exchange events at least once a year (but I have no idea about targets).



- For R1.4. Grow and prepare healthy food. I would limit to the area (acres) and number of women growing ‘new’ vegetables, and the number of women preparing it (not only selling it). Protein intake is more at the SO level, not at the R level.

### ***Monitoring output indicators***

Normally: at least the project outputs should be regularly monitored (besides the activities). The fact that many output indicators were not reported on in the progress report was more related to the over-ambitious output indicators that actually represented the specific objectives. After reviewing the suggestions for the output indicators above, it is likely that most are being monitored already.

### ***Recommendations for the final evaluation***

First of all, have a look at the methods used for this mid-term review, presented in Annex 2. This also gives an overview of the different data sources that will serve for the different evaluation components. For the household effect survey, I have a few recommendations:

1. The survey is a repetition of the baseline survey, so the comparison will be easy. I strongly recommend undertaking it the way proposed in the annex of the baseline survey (even though I have been criticizing some of the indicators)
2. However, make sure that the revised indicators above (both for SO and R) figure also in the household effect survey, in addition to (and not replacing!) the indicators already proposed in the household effect survey. E.g. it will be good to distinguish production from individual household fields from production in (project supported) collective fields. This enables us to analyze the effect of this group work.
3. Keep data separate per sampled household on separate lines in a spreadsheet, so interesting analyses can be made. E.g. the food production can be compared of farmers participating in certain groups and farmers not participating in such groups. I don't know how the data of the baseline survey are entered, but it would be worthwhile to reanalyze some of the data. (E.g., the baseline survey recommended looking at protein intake of children; to my understanding this information is already available in the baseline data.)
4. Realize that the comparison of baseline and effect survey is only a part of the final evaluation. For more information about the final evaluation, see the detailed methods in Annex 2.



# Annex 1. Terms of Reference

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The detailed Terms of Reference consist of the original Terms of Reference as attached to the contract plus the outcome of discussions held with Garth Van't Hul and Ahmed Ag Aboubacrine in Freetown before starting the review field work. Both are presented here.

## Original Terms of Reference for the ProFARM mid –term Review

### **1.0 Introduction:**

The project Promoting Food Access, Rights and Community Mobilization (ProFARM) intends to support farmer groups in marginalised villages of Bo, Moyamba and Tonkolili districts of Sierra Leone to become increasingly self-reliant in food production and more secure in their access to food. At the same time the project seeks to support Sierra Leone's transition to sustainable development by enhancing the capacity of community leadership to practice accountable and responsive governance and develop external institutional linkages for future development.

### **2.0 Background**

CARE will provide relevant documentation to the consultant at the outlet of the consultancy. The following description summarizes the present context and project information.

CARE Sierra Leone has been implementing a wide array of development interventions in Sierra Leone over the past decades focusing primarily on food security, building and road infrastructure, water and sanitation and preventive health care. During the civil war, interventions were mainly relief oriented.

Since the official end of the war in 2002, CARE Sierra Leone has successfully transitioned its programmers from relief oriented to developmental focus. The country office long range statements to address the root causes of poverty and suffering through capacity building, advocacy and partnership in order that vulnerable, disadvantaged and marginalized people are empowered to participate effectively in achieving livelihood security and realizing their rights to live with dignity. Achieving this end involves understanding of social and cultural issues, and a shared commitment to transparency, accountability, teamwork and gender equity, applying participatory processes that enable people to analyze and voice their own problems and promote and protect their rights and livelihoods.

The current CARE Sierra Leone portfolio is programmatically organized around three crosscutting themes- health and HIV/AIDs, livelihoods and assets Creation, and Good governance and Civil society strengthening focusing on in four key areas, outline in CARE Sierra Leone strategic plan and aimed at beginning to address some of the underlying causes of conflict and poverty in the country's poverty reduction and reintegration; human rights and reconciliation; good governance, peace and security, and economic recovery.

CARE Sierra Leone annual operation plans for 2005 and 2006 emphasize the need to continue to develop and build partnership with civil society organizations, the government of Sierra Leone and community- based organizations in all of the theme areas, as a more sustainable approach.

The Country Office's long range mission statement is to: address the root causes of poverty and suffering through capacity building, advocacy and partnership in order that vulnerable, disadvantaged and marginalized people are empowered to participate effectively in achieving livelihood security and realizing their right to live with dignity. The mission present staffing is approximately 280 people with a head office in Freetown and three regional sub offices in Bo, Kabala and Makeni.

The project, Promoting Food access, Rights and Community Mobilization Project (ProFARM), started operations in Gbonkolenken, Gbo and Dasse Chiefdoms in the Tonkolili, Bo and Moyamba districts of Sierra Leone respectively in February 2005. Fieldwork for the baseline was conducted in April and May 2005. The first progress report was issued in July 2005.



The project is designed to harness individual energy and build social capital in an effort ultimately leading to more food secure, self-sufficient communities. The project makes use of participatory learning and action techniques to ensure that activities address issues and opportunities in a sustainable manner.

In the context of linking food security and long-term rural development, ProFARM's activities are grounded in the use of a reflective household livelihood assessment methodology. Appropriate livelihood assessment tools are used to understand the needs and rights of vulnerable people and how these needs are met in order to improve livelihoods.

Overall, the project aims at achieving the following two specific objectives

1. By December 2007 members of 420 farmer groups in vulnerable communities of Bo, Moyamba and Tonkolili Districts will have utilized opportunities to become increasingly self-reliant in food production, have more secure access to food and make the transition to sustainable development. The indicators, which will show the improved state of sustainable food security include: (1) improved and sustainable farming practices adopted and food production increased by at least 30%; (2) pre- and post-harvest losses of produce reduced to 20%; (3) processing of produce resulting in improved preservation and trade; volume of produce marketed increased by 20%, and; (4) improved and healthier household diets containing recommended nutrients adopted, increased by 15%.

2. By December 2007, the capacity of communities to achieve sustainable food security is enhanced as local authorities/opinion leaders in the target areas practice accountable and responsive governance and provide institutional linkages for grassroots development. The achievement of this objective will be measured by the following indicators: (1) farmer groups are representative and inclusive, having membership from all strata of the community, and; (2) farmer groups initiate and participate in development programmes supported by various institutions.

3. Results and indicators: Intermediate results and Indicators, Project Log Frame, monitoring plan or any other relevant information is provided up on request or at the outset of the consultancy.

#### 4. Implementation Progress:

By employing rights base approaches, methodologies mentioned above and the associated activities, the Project aims to achieve the objectives as set in the revised log frame of the project proposal, monitoring plan and necessary data collection tools have been developed to aid measurement of impact of activities on the intended beneficiaries. However, summarized below are some of the key challenges faced to date.

#### Challenges Encountered:

The ProFARM has faced with few implementation challenges and some of them are summarized below:

- While progress continue to be achieved on community understanding of their rights, challenges exist in getting people to embrace responsibilities that go hand in hand with the rights and how to respond to potential implications associated with some of the rights. For instance high levels of poverty render rural households to withdraw their children from school and engage them in petty trading, fetching water, working in the fields, etc. In the absence of alternative solutions, poor parents still continue to depend on their children for labour.
- There are Limited vendors with the right capacity to supply quality seeds in time. Seasonal fluctuation has affected production of some food crops such as groundnuts,
- Partnership is not equally recognized by all.

#### The Midterm Evaluation

Objective: The objective of the mid-term study is to evaluate the progress, effect and impact of the project activities and formulate recommendation for the remaining period of the project life. The review will assess whether set targets and anticipated results have been achieved and level of efficiency, effectiveness, impact on the target beneficiaries and sustainability prospects of the interventions are as planned. The study will also review evolving context such the decentralisation process, upcoming elections, assess the challenges encountered and those that lie ahead and how these trends and factors may influence success of the project.



Drawing on lessons from experience to-date and the changes in the operating context, the mid –term evaluation will provide recommendations for the future orientation of the project to ensure it remains relevant and appropriate throughout its lifecycle and beyond. In ensuring ProFarm staff participation in the process, the consultant should document all the methodology and tools used during this evaluation as an annex of the final report and help build one ME Officer capacity in understanding those tools.

Issues to be reviewed: The review will appraise problems being addressed by the project and partners and specifically look at:

**Efficiency:** Based on the project logical framework assess activities that have been undertaken in order to achieve the results and draw observations as to whether the means applied are consistent with the proposal and that they efficiency transform into results. The analysis will include the work plan, the monitoring systems applied, the approach and methodology of intervention, including community contribution and participation to gauge the level of local ownership.

**Effectiveness:** Assess whether project results are contributing to the achievement of the project purpose. Interviews with beneficiaries should be analysed to inform the review.

In relation to this, it is expected to assess the level of professionalism, commitment, performance and stewardship of project staff to achieve project objective.

**Sustainability:** Taking in consideration the principal sustainability factors (Policy support measures, economic and financial viability; socio- cultural aspect-gender issues, appropriate technology, environmental protection, institutional and management capacity.) the evaluator will assess the sustainability prospects of the project.

**Effect & Impact:** While it is too early to assess the impact of the project interventions the review should assess prospects for desired impacts and effects of project interventions towards the achievement of project objectives.

**NB:** In order to facilitate the process, the program staff have updated and made available all data on project’s indicators (activities, results and specific objectives).

**Compliance:** The study is expected to assess the procedures inputs have been distributed (Compliance with donor, government & CARE procedures)

**Proposed Review Methodologies:** The consultant develops the assessment methodology in consultation with the project manager but expected to include the following:

- An in-take discussion with the ACD, the sector coordinator, the project manager and other relevant project staff.
- Work closely with ProFARM’s ME Officer and ensure that he understands well the methodology and the tools used. The ME Officer can act as an assistant to the consultant during the whole mid-term review process.
- On going update and discussion with the PM and M&E officer about the progress of the evaluation,
- Exit de-briefing,

**Evaluation Out puts:**

The evaluation will produce a comprehensive report detailing on the assessment of ProFARM’s progress to date based on logical framework, lessons learned, conclusions and recommendations for future action. For each conclusion there should be a corresponding operational recommendation. However, the out put starts with the provision of DARFT REPORT within one week after completion of the field work.

The conclusions will pay particular attention to main interventions envisaged during project preparation based on intermediate results. The recommendation should also include what should be done as part of Exit strategy.

In short, “The evaluators will make recommendations for any required modification/re-orientation of the project in order to support the effective implementation and the delivery of sustainable benefits to the identified beneficiaries. Conclusions and recommendations will be provided both for each individual intermediate result and for the whole project”.

1.0 Location: In three Chiefdoms in the districts of Bo, Moyamba and Tonkolili.

2.0 Time Frame: The total time frame of this consultancy period will be (2 weeks) 17 days (12 for field work and 5 days travel and writing) and to be completed before mid march 2007.



- 3.0 Costs: CARE SL will provide payment of travelling costs (road or air-fare) and guesthouse facilities. In addition to this remuneration, the consultant will be entitled to usual per-diem, lodging and transportation cost as per CARE SL policy, if applicable. A consultancy fee will also be agreed, to be paid in US\$, for each day of the consultancy.
- 4.0 Qualifications: Community Development Specialist, with at least 10 years experience in development work, preferably in Africa/West, well versed in Community Empowerment programmes, experience in post conflict assistance programmes, human rights, gender, and good governance speciality in either rural development with emphasis to integrated agricultural development related to development in agriculture based livelihood security. Experience in monitoring and evaluation of development projects is a must and preferred previous working experience in Sierra Leone.

Outcome of discussions with Gert Van't Hul and Ahmed Ag Aboubacrine in Freetown, before the evaluation:

Specific project issues:

- The EU mission has looked at efficiency: so there is no need to evaluate the expenses for activities (efficiency in achieving results): this would also take too much time.
- Make recommendations in the view of Care moving from relief, via seed and tools, to development. This will also require changes in the M&E system.
- Make recommendations for CARE program in general (besides recommendations for ProFarm). Some activities undertaken in ProFarm are also undertaken in other projects (e.g. FFS).
- Consider the underlying causes as presented in the CARE strategy.
- Include also possible negative impact, e.g. grouping farmers may lead to conflict.
- Make very concrete and operational recommendations for specific actions.

Specific M&E issues:

- Focus on the higher level objectives, not non the activities that are already taken care of in regular monitoring.
- Consider the Care International Evaluation policy.
- Assure that the evaluation relates well to the project document and existing M&E data.
- Anticipate the impact study at the end of the project: Have a look at the proposed tools for an impact study that is annexed to the baseline report, and comment on it. Compare what would be required with what the M&E is already collecting.
- Document concepts, tools and recommendations that help Ahmed to train the M&E officers. (In May 2007 there will be an M&E forum). (e.g. link between M&E, project documents and baseline survey)



## Annex 2. Detailed Methods

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### Complete evaluation

To prepare for the final evaluation, an attempt was made to do this mid-term review as complete as possible, involving the following aspects: effectiveness, impact, efficiency, relevance, sustainability and evolving context.

Evaluating effectiveness is defined as the contribution of project outputs towards the higher level specific objectives (in the ProFARM logframe: improved food security and governance in the 150 targeted communities).

Evaluating impact looks at changes at the overall objective level (in the ProFARM logframe: contribute to improved food security and governance in Sierra Leone). Although the achievement of the overall objective in absolute figures is not the responsibility of the project (it is not under control of the project), the project is responsible for validating the assumption that project outcome contributes to the overall objective. A full impact assessment also looks at unintended impact, which may be positive and negative. By definition, unintended impact cannot be captured by predefined indicators in the original project plan. An impact evaluation requires thus a participatory assessment in which beneficiaries identify possible impacts and indicators, without losing sight of the original project objectives.

Evaluating the efficiency includes a comparison of costs with output, outcome or impact. In the last case this is also called a cost-effectiveness analysis. This enables to compare e.g. the costs of different project activities resulting in the same type of output, or comparing different projects resulting in the same type of outcome or impact. In our example of a cost-effectiveness calculation, we estimated the value of improved crop production for farmers with the project costs, and evaluated how many years it would take before farmer benefits outweighed the project costs – the so-called ‘payback period’.

Evaluating the relevance includes the comparison of outcome or impact with the needs and priorities of beneficiaries, with the country policy and with the donor policy. It may thus happen that a successful project (successful from an effectiveness, efficiency and impact point of view) is negatively evaluated stopped because donor policy changes has changed.

Evaluating sustainability assesses whether benefits continue after external project support has stopped. Different aspects of sustainability are distinguished:

- Technology: Are beneficiaries capable of using the chosen technology after outside support has ceased?
- Economic and financial benefits: will in the long run the benefits continue to be higher than the costs, which will now have to be entirely borne by the target group itself?
- Socio-cultural: have measures been taken to ensure ongoing participation of all members of target group?
- Environment: Is continuation of environmental protection guaranteed?
- Policy support: Does the country policy allow for continuation?
- Institutional: have measures been taken during project to ensure future functioning of organisations?

Effectiveness and intended impact need to be evaluated before unintended impact, efficiency, relevance and sustainability can be evaluated. Evaluating effectiveness and intended impact requires that changes can be attributed to the project.

Evaluating the evolving context requires very open discussions with beneficiaries and partners. In our case however, we concentrated on decentralisation, the involvement of Ward Councillors and the local elections next year.



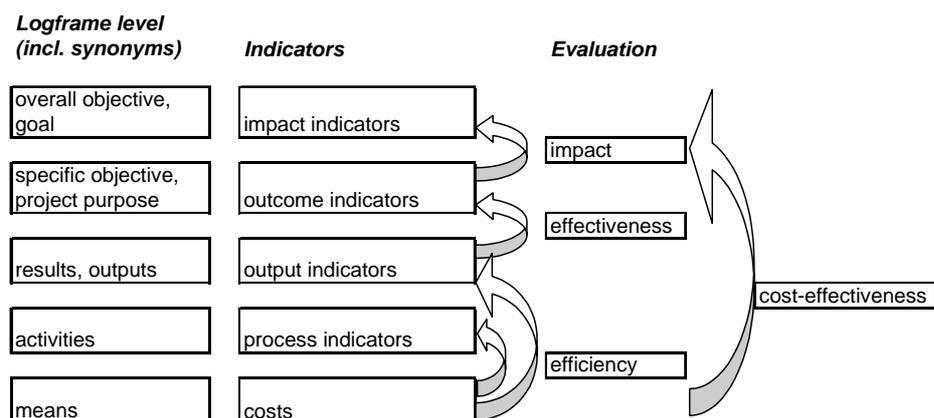


Figure 2. The relation between the logframe, indicators and different evaluation aspects

The relation between the objectives at different levels of the logframe, the related indicators and the different aspects of evaluation is presented in the Figure 2 above. Sustainability, relevance and evolving context are not specifically attached to one level in the logframe. The ProFARM logframe is presented as the last section of this Annex 2.

## Data sources for a complete evaluation

It becomes clear that the complete evaluation is more than comparing targets with achievements or comparing baseline with effect survey, although both are important data sources and analyses in the evaluation. A more complete overview of the evaluation aspects, the type of analyses, the type of data and data sources is presented in Table 2.

## Choice of villages

For the mid-term review, the focus group discussions in village and with partners played an important role. In total, 12 project villages and 2 non-project villages were visited. The selection of villages was based on a pre-selection made by the Assistant Project Manager with his Field Supervisors. They had identified 5 sites per chiefdom, including 2 good sites and 2 poor sites, in terms of farmer group work, including both nearby and remote sites, and including sites where relatively more additional activities were undertaken (farmer field school, well, seed store). The final selection combined both good and poor sites, hoping to find varied points of view from the beneficiaries. Two non-project villages were chosen that were relatively close to project villages, but that happen to be in a neighbouring chiefdom (see Table 2).

## Subjects discussed in village focus groups

Discussions were held either with a mixed group, with a group of women, with a group of youth, with members of farmers groups, or with a group of non-group members. The subjects covered:

- the effect as experienced by farmers (expected, unexpected and negative effect),
- the achievements following the specific objectives and the project outputs (food security and governance), including recommendations for the remaining project period.
- the expected sustainability, including the possibility for non-group members to eventually benefit from group work.
- their recommendations for interventions in other, non-project villages
- their other concerns or questions (often an indication of the relevance of different issues)



Because we did not want to discuss with one group for much longer than 1 – 1½ hour, we made a selection of subjects to be discussed in each group: not all issues were discussed in all villages. The list of villages visited and the subjects discussed in each village is presented in Tables 3 and 4 below. The complete group discussion guideline is presented as a separate, later section in this Annex on Methodology.

Table 2. Type of analysis, type of data and data sources for the complete final evaluation.

Evaluation aspect	Analysis	quantitative data	qualitative data	project doc, targets in logframe	baseline report	progress reports	market surveys	hh effect survey	district reports (food security, nutrition)	discussions project villages	discussions non-project villages	discussions with MAFFS	discussions with District Council	national or district policy papers	Care Strategic Plan
1 Project outputs	compare target with achievements	x		x		x									
2 Effectiveness (achievement S.O.)	compare project targets, baseline and achievement	x		x	x	?	?	x							
(150 communities)	compare project with district figures	x			x			x	x						
	compare project with non-project sites		x							x	x				
	attribute of outcome to outputs (1)	x			x			x							
	attribute of outcome to outputs (2)	x								x					
3 Impact (achievement O.O)(national level)	assess direct impact: project outcome in 150 villages compared with total villages in Sierra Leone	x							x						
	assess indirect impact: partner staff continuing approaches in their sites		x									x			
	assess indirect impact: neighboring villages copying practices from project villages		x								x				
	attribute: plausible link between project and national impact		x									x			
	ask unexpected impact (farmer indicators)		x							x					
4 Sustainability	ask expected sustainability (technical, economic, socio-cultural and environmental)		x							x		x			
	ask expected sustainability (institutional, policy)		x							x		x	x		
	assess real sustainability		x							x		x	x		
5 Relevance	verify priorities national policy		x											x	
	verify priorities CARE		x												x
	ask priorities beneficiaries		x							x	x				
6 Efficiency	compare farmer benefits with project costs	x		x				x							
	compare with different project, e.g. ABU		x							x	x				
	compare with different project, e.g. ABU	x		x					x			x			
7 Evolving context	Unexpected factors influencing the project, e.g. decentralisation		x							x		x	x		



Table 3. Villages visited during the mid-term review.

Village	Chiefdom	date	comments
1 Sembahun	Gbo	1-mrt	
2 Kortumahun	Gbo	3-mrt	
3 Mokebie	Gbo	3-mrt	
4 Magbolu Bana / Fery	Gbonkolenken	4-mrt	
5 Mayesie	Gbonkolenken	4-mrt	
6 Makawo	Gbonkolenken	5-mrt	
7 Maforbie	Gbonkolenken	5-mrt	
8 Foya Tewei	Dasse 1	6-mrt	
extra Kabaima	Dasse 1	6-mrt	only to see processing machines
9 Bondalياهو	Dasse 1	6-mrt	
10 Moyerboh	Loabantha	7-mrt	non-project site close to project
11 Ngibiabehun	Loabantha	7-mrt	non-project site close to project
12 Kangahunwo	Dasse 2	7-mrt	
13 Nitty Harding	Dasse 2	7-mrt	
14 Jaiahun	Dasse 2	8-mrt	

Table 4. Type of groups and subjects discussed in each village.

village	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
all mixed group (a)			1	1	1	1	1		1	1	1	1	1	1
group members (g)	1													
non-group members (n)	1													
men (m)		1												
women (w)		1		1				1		1				
youth (y)								1			1			
impact	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1			1	1	1
food security	1	1	1	1	1	1		1		1	1	1	1	
marketing	1	1	1	1		1		1					1	
info exchange		1		1	1	1						1		
nutrition	1	1		1				1				1		
groups and governance		1		1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
decentralisation	1								1				1	1
linkages	1	1		1								1		
sustainability	1	1	1	1	1	1	1					1		
group open for new?	1	1	1	1	1			1				1	1	1
recom. other villages	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
problems / requests	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1

Note: 10 and 11 were non-project villages

## Discussions with partners

Discussions were held with CARD in Bo, with MAFFS in Bo, Tonkolili and Moyamba, and with the District Council in Moyamba. The subject covered especially recommendations for ProFARM, the institutional sustainability and recommendations for any follow-up project. The names of partners and dates of discussions are presented below.



### **District Council**

*Moyamba district council, 8 March*

Frederick Sesay, deputy district chairman

### **CARD**

*CARD Office Bo, 1 March*

Mr S.L. Gandhi; Director

### **MAFFS**

*Bo District Agricultural Office, 1 March*

Mr Kallo, Agricultural District Officer

Mr Tawali, Assistant Ag. District Officer and Crops Officer

*Tonkolili District Agricultural Office, 5 March*

Mr Alphonsou K. Turay, District Director

*Moyamba district agricultural office, 8 March*

B.J. Bangura, Agr. district officer

E. George, district coordinator FFS and district training coordinator

Mr Witsfield, crops subject matter specialist

Mr. Sanfana, M&E Officer

Mr. Betuaa, Admin Officer and coordinator of ABUs

## **Restitution and discussion with CARE staff in Bo and Freetown**

After presenting some of the preliminary findings, especially recommendations for ProFARM and recommendations for possible other CARE projects, CARE staff in Bo and Freetown made their comments, discussed and interpreted these preliminary findings. CARE Staff involved in these discussions is presented below.

### *Restitution meeting in Bo, 9 March:*

Tedla Assefa, ProFARM Project manager

Peter Gombo, M&E Officer Profarm

Abu Mustafa, Assistant project manager ProFarm

Musa Mammy, Assistant Project Manger Refugees Food Security Project

Alex Makavorey, M&E Officer RSF

Jacop Pratt, Training Team Leader RSF

Abdulai Jalloh, TTL ProFARM

Fatmata Ndoinge, Community Outreach Officer ProFARM

Hawa kamanda, Community Outreach Officer ProFARM

Cecilia Alpha, Project Administrator ProFARM

Patrick Lebbie, Community Outreach Officer ProFARM

Gabriel Massaquoi, Community Outreach Officer

Isrealla Koroma, Monitoring Agent

S.L. Gandhi, Programme Manager **CARD**

### *Restitution meeting in Freetown, 11 March:*

Amani M'Bale, Youth and livelihood programme

Garth van't Hul, Acting Country Director

Ahmed Ag Aboubacrine, Design, M&E Coordinator

Paul Turay, Project Officer Care Sierra Leone

Josephine Kainessie, M&E Officer HAPP

Tedla Assefa, ProFARM Project manager

Peter Gombo, M&E Officer Profarm



## Analysis and presentation of discussion results

To analyse and present the results in a transparent way, tables were made in excel indicating the answer given per subject and the village / group that gave this answer. Then, different answers are grouped and structured, by simply moving rows up en down. Annex 3 'Detailed results' presents these grouped and structured results. Depending on the frequency issues were brought up by villages and partners, an on the subsequent discussion with CARE staff, recommendations were made for ProFARM and for other projects in general.

## Focus group discussion guideline

Revised version, Ferko, 3 March 07

Note: This version was slightly adapted after the first three village discussions, 1 and 3 March. The question numbers remained the same, so some questions are cancelled and other questions have been inserted.

[in square brackets: instructions for interviewer]

### ***Introduction in project villages:***

Names

Objective of this evaluation:

- Appreciate what has been achieved so far
- Make recommendations for the remaining project period (1 year)
- Make recommendations for after the project period: how can benefits continue or even expand to other people and other areas.

Method of evaluation:

- There are already data available about the project activities (training, constructions, organized groups, awareness campaigns etc) that are already in reports. In addition to that, we now want to discuss what contribution this project (and the project activities) has made to the 'higher level' objectives, the so-called 'effect': especially in relation to 1) food security, and 2) the relation between local leaders and villages.
- Besides, we want to discuss the 'sustainability' of this project: what will happen after the project stops, in about one year from now, and how can some achievements be expanded to other areas.
- In order to give rooms for different views, it may be better in some cases to discuss in different groups: e.g.
  - men and leaders (possibly in a mixed group or a farmer field school),
  - women (possibly in a women's group),
  - youth (possibly in a youth group)
  - villagers that do not participate in a group.

[Discuss how best to discuss: what groups]

### **Effect:**

#### ***Impact indicators according to villagers***

1. Not only will we consider these objectives and indicators formulated by the project, but we also want objectives and indicators according to you: What change to your live have you experienced during the project?
2. Besides the planned or expected effect, there may also be unplanned or unexpected effects. Were there any unexpected effects?
3. Besides positive effects, there may also be negative effects. Were there any negative effects?

Indicators in project logframe, slightly adapted



**Food security** [R1.1]

4. Some households experience a food shortage especially in the months before the harvest. We talk about food shortage when people eat only one meal per day or even less. Who of you expects to have a period of at least 2 months of food shortage before next harvest?

7. Who of you experience 2 months food shortage 3 years ago (2004)?

[if farmers have experienced improvement in food security]

8. What factors have improved food security? [working in groups, use of valleys, drying and storage facilities, processing facilities]

8b. What can the project do next year to improve food security even further?

**Marketing** [R1.2]

9. Compared to 3 years ago: are you selling more, less or an equal amount of farm produce?

[if more]

10. What has helped you selling more?

[higher production, processing better road, exposure to markets, market facilities, etc]

10b. What can the project do next year to increase marketing even further?

**Information exchange** [R1.3]

11. How many of you have learned something about improved farm practices from other farmers?

12. On what occasions do you exchange this information?

[farmer field days, peace and right days, ministry agricultural extension worker, other occasions] [ranking]

13. [Cancelled]

14. Three years ago, the year before the project started: how many of you had the possibility to learn something about improved farm practices?

14b. What can the project do next year to improve information exchange even further?

**Nutrition** [R1.4]

15. What do you consider a healthy diet?

One of the ingredients that makes a meal healthy is proteins, which are in milk, meat, fish, beans and groundnuts.

16. Nowadays: how many of you eat a meal with proteins every day?

17. Three years ago: how many of you ate a meal with proteins every day?

18. What has made it possible to eat healthier now [vegetable seeds, other seeds, nutrition training, sanitation training, rehabilitation or new wells]

18b. What can the project do next year to improve protein intake even further?

Good local leadership and better relation leaders - villagers



**Farmer groups and involvement in decision making** [R2.1.a]

19. Were there any farmer groups before the project started 3 years ago?

[if yes]:

20. What did they do?

21. Who were in these groups? [men only, separate womens groups, youth?]

22. What are the differences between the groups then and the groups now?

23. Are you (women, youth) involved in decision making at the village level?

23b. How was that 3 years ago?

23c. Can you give examples of decisions that you have recently been involved in?

24. What has made that change?

[Capacity building, discussions about leadership, perhaps the combination with agricultural inputs]

24b. What can the project do to improve involvement in decision making even further?

**Farmer initiatives for externally supported activities** [R2.1.b]

25. Is any group in this village involved in setting up an activity that will be supported by anyone else than CARE / this project?

[if yes]

26. What activity?

27. What has enabled this group to do so?

[understanding rights and governance, education of leaders and citizens, linking groups to other organizations]

27b. What can the project do to help communities organize their own project support?

**Sustainability:**

The project will finish in about one year from now. We are curious how you expect that things will go afterwards:

**Technical sustainability**

30. Do you expect to be able to continue the new agricultural practices (low land rice, vegetables, cassava, etc) without project support?

**Economic sustainability:**

32. Will in the benefits continue to be higher than the costs, when the project will no longer cover some of the costs?

**Environmental sustainability**

33. May on the long term some environmental problems occur? [Think of deforestation, land degradation, water]



***Socio-cultural sustainability:***

[possibility for people to join old groups or form new groups]

36. Have people migrated or come back into this village?

One of the objectives was to involve people in project activities and to avoid any sort of exclusion. Now there are some people who are not in a group, but who may wish to join a group or to form a new group.

38. Are there families who do not have any member participating in any group?

39. What are the reasons for not having joined a group? [wanted to see first, came later to village, were excluded after not showing up for work]

40. Is it desirable that those who want can join a group or form a group?

41. What can be done so these people can benefit from group work, e.g. in the coming year?

***[Institutions only] Institutional sustainability:***

42. Have measures been taken during project to ensure future functioning of organisations? (Taking over by MAFFS, CARD, NaCSA? other national NGOs?)

***[Institutions only] Policy sustainability***

43. Policy support: Does the country policy allow for continuation? Is food security and local governance still priority?

**Recommendations for remaining project period**

This project has still one year to go.

44. [Cancelled, is asked after discussion per subject]

45. [Cancelled, is asked after discussion per subject]

**Recommendations for other areas, with no or limited support**

Other projects may want to help other villages, but may have a more limited budget to spend.

46. What would you recommend to include at least? / How can other villages be supported with limited means?

**Relevance**

48. Do you have any questions to us? [often leads to presentation of problems or requests – indication of priorities]



# ProFARM Logframe, revised version October 2005

12. *Updated*

Revised ProFARM Logical Framework (proposed 14 Dec 2005, changes in *bold italics*)

Overall objective	Intervention logic	Objectively verifiable indicators of achievement	Sources and means of verification	Assumptions
<p>Contribute to the Government of Sierra Leone's effort to attain food security and enhance good governance.</p>	<p>Increased availability and better variety of food in all households for all household members</p>	<p>National household survey</p>	<p>Favourable climatic conditions</p>	
<p>Local authorities provide accountable and responsive leadership</p>	<p>Improved and sustainable farming practices adopted and food production increased by at least 30%</p>	<p>Household survey reports Market survey reports FFS reports <i>Six-monthly ProFARM progress reports</i> <i>Annual ProFARM reports, Midterm and final evaluation reports</i></p>	<p>Peace and stability</p>	
<p>Pre- and post-harvest losses of produce reduced to 20%</p>	<p>Processing of produce resulting in improved preservation and trade; volume of produce marketed increased by 20%</p>	<p>Group records Ward committee records <i>Six-monthly ProFARM progress reports</i> <i>Annual ProFARM reports, Midterm and final evaluation reports</i></p>		
<p>Number of households adopting improved and healthier diets containing recommended nutrients <i>increased by 15%</i></p>	<p>Farmer groups are representative and inclusive, having membership from all strata of the community</p>	<p>Farmer groups initiate and participate in development programmes supported by various institutions</p>		
<p>Farmer groups in vulnerable communities of Bo, Moyamba and Tonkolili Districts will have utilised opportunities to become increasingly self-reliant in food production, have more secure access to food and make the transition to sustainable development.</p>	<p>By <b>December 2007</b>, the capacity of communities to achieve sustainable food security is enhanced as local authorities in the target areas practice accountable and responsive governance and provide institutional linkages for grassroots development.</p>			
<p>By <b>December 2007</b>, the capacity of communities to achieve sustainable food security is enhanced as local authorities in the target areas practice accountable and responsive governance and provide institutional linkages for grassroots development.</p>				



Expected results	Intervention logic	Objectively verifiable indicators of achievement	Sources and means of verification	Assumptions
1.1 Farmers organized in 300 groups have increased knowledge of lowland cultivation techniques and have increased their crop production	Reduction of the period of food shortage – one meal or less a day - in target villages from 4 to 2 months in 50% of households by <i>December 2007</i>	Quarterly household survey reports	Availability of seeds of the appropriate varieties	
1.2 Marginalised communities have increased access to markets and market exchange	20% increase in number of farmers in target villages who are marketing produce and 20% increase in volume of produce from the target villages marketed by <i>December 2007</i>	Market survey reports		
1.3 Thirty Farmer Field Schools established and functional	20% increase in number of farmers in target villages who exchange information on farming techniques and RBA principles and methodologies at least 4 times a year and promote RBA principles and methodologies across operational areas through organized forums by <i>December 2007</i>	Group records Ward committee records		
1.4 Women organized in 120 groups have been enabled to grow and prepare healthy food	30% increase in number of households in target villages where all members consume every day at least 1 dish containing protein by <i>December 2007</i>	Six-monthly ProFARM progress reports Annual ProFARM reports, Midterm and final evaluation reports	Taboos on age- and gender-related feeding patterns are disregarded	
2.1 Community leaders adhere to principles of good governance and farmer groups engage in developmental and social activities	20% increase in number of men, women and youth aged 15 and above in target villages participating in developmental and social group activities by <i>December 2007</i>		Leaders are ready to discuss issues of (good) governance	
2.2 Decentralised governance structures are increasingly representative, transparent, accountable and responsive and communities participate increasingly in decision making processes and development programmes	At least one group in each target cluster actively participates in at least one externally promoted development programme by <i>December 2007</i>			Decentralization policy is effectively being implemented



Activities	Intervention logic	Objectively verifiable indicators of achievement	Sources and means of verification	Assumptions
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1.1.1 Identification of inclusive farmer groups</li> <li>1.1.2 Valley/field rehabilitation and development</li> <li>1.1.3 Rehabilitation and <i>construction</i> of storage facilities, and <i>supply of drying tarpaulins</i></li> <li>1.1.4 Introduction of agro-processing equipment               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1.2.1 Marketing survey</li> </ul> </li> <li>1.2.2 Market sites and management issues</li> <li>1.2.3 Exposure of farmers to markets</li> <li>1.2.4 Development of market centres</li> <li>1.3.1 Organize Farmer Field Schools</li> <li>1.3.2 Conduct Farmer Field schools</li> <li>1.3.3 Disseminate and consolidate results</li> <li>1.4.1 Support to vegetable production</li> <li>1.4.2 Rehabilitation and construction of shallow wells</li> <li>1.4.3 Training on nutrition and sanitation</li> <li>2.1.1 Capacity building of farmer groups</li> <li>2.1.2 Facilitate dialogue on leadership, transparency and good governance</li> <li>2.2.1 Understanding rights and governance issues</li> <li>2.2.2 Education of leaders and citizens</li> <li>2.2.3 Linking farmer groups to facilities</li> </ul>	<p>Means:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>CARE staff</li> <li>CARD staff</li> <li>MAFFS staff</li> <li>Other resource persons</li> <li>Travel</li> <li>Media contract</li> <li>Radio broadcasts</li> <li>Market survey consultant</li> <li>Seeds</li> <li>Fertilizer</li> <li>Tools</li> <li>FFS starter packs</li> <li>Agro-processing equipment</li> <li>Bicycles</li> <li>Motorbikes</li> <li>Vehicles</li> <li>Training materials</li> <li>Publications</li> <li>Building materials</li> <li>Transport</li> </ul>	<p>Sources of information:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Quarterly household survey reports</li> <li>Market survey reports</li> <li><i>ProFARM</i> progress reports</li> <li>Training reports</li> <li>Stores, wells, demo sites, kitchen gardens</li> <li>Media reports</li> </ul> <p>Costs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Human resources – EUR 665,375</li> <li>Travel – EUR 2,730</li> <li>Equipment/supplies – EUR 148,615</li> <li>Local office costs – EUR 124,054</li> <li>Services – EUR 98,330</li> <li>Other costs – EUR 620, 927</li> <li>Administrative costs – EUR 116,272</li> </ul>	<p>Conditions outside control:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Establishment of local governance structures</li> </ul> <p>Preconditions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Personnel and facilities are in place</li> </ul>	



# Annex 3. Detailed Results

## Presentation of results

The presentation of results are organised as follows

- The points of view of farmers in the project villages on:
  - Effects
    - First effect mentioned
    - All effects mentioned
    - Unexpected effects
    - Negative effects
  - Food security
  - Marketing
  - Knowledge exchange
  - Nutrition
  - Group work and village decision making
  - Involvement in other supported activities
  - Sustainability
  - Decentralisation
  - Recommendations for other villages
- The points of view in non-project villages on:
  - Changes in food security
  - Changes in involvement in decision making
- Points of view of project partners
  - Recommendations for ProFARM
  - Recommendations for other, follow-up projects
  - Trends in food security
  - What is most effective to improve food security
  - Farmer field schools
  - Decentralisation
  - ABUs
- Points of view from ProFARM staff and the M&E Officer during the field visits
- Discussions from the Bo and Freetown restitution: these are directly incorporated in the main text.

### Effect mentioned first (don't give this too much importance: is not a real ranking)

Village		1	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	8	9	12	13	14	vil.
Group		g	n	w	a	a	a	a	a	w	y	a	a	a	a	
FS	seed					1							1	1	1	5
	food security							1			1	1				3
	Vegetable gardening			1					1							2
	income			1												1
	income to pay school fees						1									1
Gover.	Unity, working together	1			1											2
Construc.	waterwell		1													1
	store									1						1



**Effect (spontaneously mentioned)**

Village subgroup	1	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	8	9	12	13	14	vil
	g	n	w	a	a	a	a	a	w	y	a	w	a	a	
FS seed			1	1	1			1			1	1	1	1	8
before seed and pl. material was scarce								1			1				2
now seedbank								1			1	1			3
rice									1		1	1	1	1	5
nerica rice (3 months)								1			1				2
cassava					1			1	1		1	1			5
cassava bridges hunger season during rains									1						1
groundnut					1			1			1	1	1	1	6
sweet potato				1	1						1	1			4
vegetables				1	1	1		1			1	1			6
now vegetables all year round, every day	1														1
tools			1			1	1	1			1	1	1	1	8
food production					1	1	1	1		1	1		1		7
healthier food								1							1
productive lowland cultivation	1				1				1						3
before food was finished in february	1														1
before had to buy seed rice and food	1														1
FFS						1									1
training how to grow crops		1		1	1									1	4
nutrition training							1	1			1				3
preserve food for 3-5 months											1				1
Income income general	1				1	1	1	1			1				6
less dependent from husband			1		1		1				1				4
help wife -> husband	1		1		1		1				1				5
schoolfees (books, uniform)	1				1	1	1	1			1				6
helps also rest of family						1									1
CARE staff don't neglect anybody in village, transparant, no															
Gover. privilagees for anyone					1										1
encouragement by project staff			1												1
Unity and peace	1						1				1		1		4
work together	1			1	1		1	1			1		1	1	8
farming together	1														1
contruction houses together	1														1
group work is more beneficial											1				1
better relationships					1										1
taking decisions together					1										1
exchange of information					1										1
better relation chief - villagers					1										1
women take part decisions	1														1
human rights		1													1
meetings on governnce is for all		1													1
before: anargy; now: respect for leaders		1													1
less violations		1													1
less conflict men - women			1								1				2
less conflict in village				1								1			2
better understanding between villages; P&R days					1						1				2
bush conflict between 2 vil. resolved in P&R day											1				1
Contr. constructions in general					1										1
water well		1					1		1					1	4
water -> healthier people									1						1
store		1				1			1						3
drying floor						1			1						2
bumber harvest has motivated village to construct store										1					1
General comments (not effect)															
other projects do not reach this village (in many cases)							1								1
possibility to discuss with care staff											1				1
possibility to visit Bo											1				1
bad experience: other project (NaCSA oil palm rehabilitation programme; via local NGO) asked money and disappeared											1				1
bad experience with other project: asked to register and give money and food; project disappeared.												1			1
Neighbouring project village: problem motivation due to EU															
food for work project before									1						1
in neighbouring non-project village no change	1														1



### Unexpected effect (some overlap with question 1: effect)

village	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	8	9	12	13	14	vil.
group	g	w	a	a	a	a	a	w	y	a	a	a	a	
FS														
training on composting for veg.garden			1											1
vegetable seed			1											1
enough seed to expand area					1									1
working growing vegetables in womens group			1											1
income from vegetable, marketing and businesses					1									1
Before they bought rice; now they sell rice								1						1
training on nutrition, processing and preserving			1											1
Tools				1										1
tools, shovel, weelbarrows				1										1
tools to burry dead (before: loan from other village)		1			1	1	1		1		1			6
tools also used to clean town									1		1	1		3
tools to widen road										1				1
tools to build bridge												1		1
Constr.														
own storeroom (protect against birds)			1											1
waterwell														0
seed store				1										1
drying floor				1										1
handpump				1										1
Gover.														
reduced domestic violence				1										1
peace and right days, unity between communities				1										1
The formed a Union, with groups from other communities, visit each other, work on road (own initiative)				1										1
W-groups has cash to loan members						1								1
Also non-group members benefit										1				1
Also disabled (non group members) benefit through friends										1				1
awareness about HIV Aids				1										1

### Negative effect

village	1	1	2	3	4	8	12	14	vil.
group	g	n	w	a	a	w	a	a	
people now want to join group; are excluded	1								1
laggards have little chance to join group later		1							1
neighbouring village jealous, don't want to help with road	1								1
cassava attacked by rodents [is not a project effect]			1						1
no negative effects					1	1	1	1	4



**Food security; causes and recommendations**

village group	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	8	9	12	13	vil.
	g	w	a	all	a	a	a	w	y	a	a	a	
expected shortage 2007 (>2 months; =<1 meal/day)	0	40%	33%	0	few	some		30%		none	none		few
shortage before, in 2004	all	all	all	all	most	many		all		all	all		most
before did not know to preserve food		1											1
before sometimes 2 days without food				1									1
before fields sometimes left fallow; lack of seeds				1									1
even last year: some had to pay back debts						1							1
Before sold cash crops to buy rice; now buy other things								1					1
In other villages: not seen improvement				1									1
Due to: rice		1		1				1		1	1	1	5
valley cultivation			1					1					2
cassava		1		1				1					3
potato		1											1
groundnuts				1				1					2
tools										1			1
unity										1	1		2
groupwork		1			1					1			3
care support		1											1
FFS					1	1							2
due to very motivated village									1				1
training										1			1
training nutrition										1			1
before: eat all rice in dry seasosn and eat only cassava in riany season; now: save some rice for rainy season: mixed diet											1		1
Recommendations for project next year?													
Seed	more seed					1							1
	rice			1									1
	short duration rice							1					1
	groundnuts			1				1					2
	seed of other crops (not of the same)				1								1
Pests	pest control (birds in rice)											1	1
	hunting tools											1	1
Tools	mechanical cultivation				1	1	1						3
	They think they can pay fuel and maintain				1								1
Training	More members in FFS				1								1
	More info sharing from away				1								1
Constr.	drying floor									1			1
	seed store									1		1	2
Proces	cassava processor									1			1



## Marketing

village group		1	2	3	4	5	6	8	13	vil.
		w	m	a	w	a	a	w	a	
Change	women seel part of products (50%)	1					1			2
	people sell more now		1	1	1			1		4
	now sale at periodic market						1			1
	some sell small surplus			1						1
	Have not yet started selling (new project; 1 year)								1	1
Due to:	due to care		1	1						2
	vegetable gardens		1							1
	new potato vives		1							1
	bicycles, weelbarrows help transport to further markets		1							1
	due to pepper seed: pepper high in demand				1					1
Next year?	more seed, other species (okra, ...)				1					1
	training in marketing and business skills				1		1			2
	market store at district fair (outside village)							1		1
	Gari processing machine							1		1

## Information exchange (Farmer Field School)

village group		2	4	5	6	12	vil.
		m	a	a	a	a	
New?	rice in swamps	1	1		1		3
	rice in nursery (before: direct broadcast)	1	1				2
	rice in rows (before: direct broadcast)	1	1				2
	potato vines			1			1
	cassava			1			1
	test: compare trad - improved practices			1			1
Before?	Before: not even info from MAFFS		1	1		1	3
	Before: projects did not work with groups				1		1
FFS	Their FFS has 6 project and 6 non-project members					1	1
	Their FFS has loaned Nerica seed to non-project members					1	1
Next year?	More assistance and seed to existing FFS			1			1
	more, new FFS			1			1
	more members per FFS			1			1

## Nutrition

village group		1	2	4	8	12	vil.
		g	w	w	w	a	
What?	healthy is: varied			1	1	1	3
	healthy is: hygienic preparation				1		1
Change?	% eat potein every day 2007		all	all	39%	all	most
	% eat protein every day 2004		all	all	17%	all	most
	milkpowder replaced by breastfeeding	1					1
	now more healthy food for children	1				1	2
Due to?	now healthier diet by groundnuts		1			1	2
	due to training on nutrition				1	1	2
	before: sell groundnuts; now eat groundnuts					1	1
Next year?	more seed - more sale - income - buy other food			1			1
	request assistance for fish pond			1			1
	more beans and groundnut seed				1		1



### Group work and village decision making

village group	1	1	2	3	4	4	5	6	7	8	8	9	12	13	14	vil.			
	g	n	m	a	a	w	a	a	a	w	y	a	a	a	a				
Groups before?	Before: work gangs, but no collective field	1	1	1	1	1										1	5		
	Before: work gangs, but no discussions	1					1										1	3	
	Before: women group, but no collective field	1																1	
	Before: W-group badly managed: money disappeared							1										1	
Groups now?	Now groups learn more				1													1	2
	Now: groups receive support (seed)						1											1	2
	group work is better than individual work								1										1
	good within-group decision making										1	1							2
Decisions before?	Before: Women + Youth not involved at all					1			1				1	1					4
	Before: W+Y were also involved																	1	1
	Before: conflicts in hh; between hh													1					1
Decisions now?	Now: W involved in village decision making					1			1	1		1	1	1	1				7
	Now: W can appoint one to represent them in decisions									1									1
	Now: Youth are involved in decision taking								1			1			1	1			4
	Now they know: not all fines need to be paid								1										1
	now better relation wife - husband								1										1
	now better relation youth - chief										1								1
	Conflicts, cases and discussions in logbook													1					1
Due to?	Profarm					1													1
	experienced project staff								1										1
	Training governance and human rights / empowerment								1			1			1				3
	awareness on rights and leadership; avoid conflicts														1				1
	If you have food you can sit and talk to people														1				1
Example decisions?	site selection for project site					1													1
	site selection for store										1								1
	decisions about conflict (cases)					1													1
	many different decisions					1													1
	ask permission to do other urgent things during collective work											1							1
	W proposed contribution of food and money (according to wealth) to yong well diggers												1						1
	Wife and husband had a fight; discussed with others, incl. other women													1					1
	Previous project supplied iron roof sheets; women involved in decision to use this for school														1				1
	When chinese installed water dam: collective decision not to go to toilet there; keep water clean																	1	1
Next year?	Improve skills of women's group to persuade women outside group to be involved in decision making					1													1
	Consolidate training to whole village								1										1
	Help W with income: women will be listened to									1									1
	Training men about equal rights									1									1
	continue training rights responsibilities, esp. chiefs and youth (all)											1							1
	young man hope to resolve conflict without chief involvement (fine)												1						1



**Is village or group involved in another activity, supported by other than Care?**

village	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	12	14	vil.
group	g	m	a	a	a	a	a	w	a	a	a	
No (not yet)	1			1	1					1	1	5
they constructed toilets, village initiative (no support)	1											1
"Compling group": save and loan group (no support)		1										1
Project assistance next year?												
Can project link them to other support?				1	1	1	1				1	5
Can Profarm link for health centre?				1								1
What fallow up after profarm finishes?								1	1			2
Can profarm teach how to write proposal and contact other NGO's?											1	1

**Sustainability: technical, economical and environmental**

village	1	1	2	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	12	13	14	vil.
Group	g	n	w	m	a	a	a	a	a	y	a	a	a	
Technical? Will continue practices	1		1		1	1	1	1			1			7
Economic? Ableto buy seed and tools	1		1		1	1	1				1			6
Govern.? improved governance will continue									1					1
Environ.? don't expect environmental problems						1					1			2
lowland cultivation: less pressure on upland forest											1			1
Copy? They continue also individually in swamp									1					1
people copy practices individually											1			1



**Sustainability: socio-cultural: group work and openings for new members**

village	1	1	2	2	3	4	5	6	8	12	13	14	vil.
Group	g	n	w	m	a	a	a	a	y	a	a	a	
<b>Why are some not in group?</b>													
expected no benefits		1											1
bad experience with other projects		1											1
arrived in village after project had started					1								1
sickness, but would like to join					1				1				2
pregnancy									1				1
family members are in group		1							1				2
misunderstanding number of groups that project would support												1	1
people have settled in village last 3 years						1	1						2
people came back after war						1							1
<b>benefits for non-group members?</b>													
all hh are already represented in groups				1								1	2
benefits already through family in group		1											1
work in accordance of village, also non-group members								1					1
<b>Do new members want to join a group?</b>													
all are already in group (small community)										1	1		2
not all hh are represented in groups		1											1
now they want to join (seen it's interesting)		1				1	1					1	4
have not asked groups yet		1							1				2
<b>Join old groups or make new groups?</b>													
Existing groups don't allow new group members		1											1
don't allow those who did not help first year		1	1					1					3
group has invested a lot of labour		1											1
Prefer drop outs to join old groups			1										1
both joining groups and form new group is OK					1								1
join group... consider individually				1									1
joining costs 3000L per missed day x 2 years		1											1
new members have already joined				1									1
prefer new group		1	1			1	1	1	1			1	7
<b>Next year: assistance to new groups?</b>													
Land is not the problem		1											1
new groups need rice and groundnuts									1				1
New groups need project inputs (seed, tools, motiv.)		1	1	1		1	1					1	6
one year project support to new group en enough							1						1
Old group may help new group (seed on loan; if sown in village) if they ask respectfully		1											1
Example: womens group started rice with seed on loan form mixed farmer group		1											1
old groups can train new groups		1	1			1							3
can new groups receive income in time?									1				1
<b>After project?</b>													
Group will continue functioning		1	1		1						1		4
fear: without profarm, some may get lazy									1				1



### local government: relation village - ward councillors (extra questions)

village	1	9	13	14	vil.
Contacts with local politicians: councillors?					
asked chiefdom for clinic, no reply	1				1
don't even know their councilor	1	1		1	3
they know their ward councillor from P&R day			1		1
no benefits from councillor		1			1
no discussions with councillor		1	1		2
no expectations from councilor		1		1	2
Expectations from next year local elections and new councillors?					
all will vote		1			1
no expectations from next year local elections				1	1
local authority should help development	1	1			2
they want to discuss with councillor, e.g. school		1	1		2
they hope for help with hospital		1			1
New councillors will make more effort to be known		1			1
Fear: village divide according to party preferences		1			1
Fear: project to go through councillor: village don't trust			1		1

### Recommendations for other villages / priorities for limited help?

village	1	1	2	3	4	4	5	6	7	8	8	9	12	13	14	vil.
group	g	n	w	a	a	w	a	a	a	w	y	a	a	a	a	
General recommendations to new village																
work in unity / group	1			1											1	3
be tolerant	1															1
take work seriously	1				1											2
village also to take responsibility, e.g. provide food during peace and right days	1															1
all to join group in first year		1										1				2
Possibilities project villages helping new village																
they can assist nearby village if they trust each other													1			1
project village can teach / discuss with new villages	1	1			1	1	1	1					1			7
non-project villages could join FFS													1			1
they can provide seeds to other vill.				1									1			2
they feel responsible to help other vil							1									1
seed on loan from project village					1	1		1								3
Recommendations for (project) support: priorities																
Project assistance to other villages										1					1	2
seed												1	1	1	1	3
rice			1						1		1			1	1	5
swamp development											1					1
cassava									1							1
vegetables									1		1					2
sweet potato																0
groundnuts												1			1	2
tools			1												1	2
training (incl FFS)				1												1
contructions				1												1
Training in rights and responsibilities; to all										1					1	2
Give opportunity to women to become local leaders										1						1
When you have food: less conflict														1		1



**Questions to us (problems, requests): indication of priorities**

Village Group	1	1	2	3	4	4	5	6	7	8	8	9	12	13	14	vil.
	g	n	w	a	a	w	a	a	a	w	y	a	a	a	a	
<b>Related to current project</b>																
project extension				1	1									1		3
longer project period, to include late adopters in group			1													1
Longer project to form a union of farmer groups				1												1
more farmer groups					1											1
<b>seed/tools</b>																
more seed (is foreseen by project)															1	1
more tools			1													1
more watering cans			1	1												2
fertiliser			1													1
Processing machine Gari					1										1	2
rice milling machine															1	1
<b>pests</b>																
Problem with grasshoppers				1												1
Problem with rodents				1												1
chemicals to control pests					1								1			2
hunting tools			1													1
<b>market</b>																
develop market to sell products														1		1
linking with markets												1				1
<b>construct.</b>																
water well					1	1		1						1		3
water well (is planned by project)													1			1
deepen care project well									1	1						1
repair hand pump water							1									1
second well (large village >600p)												1				1
Problem of cholera by unsafe water				1	1											1
more / larger drying floors							1								1	2
seed store								1							1	2
project assistance with transport of sand for well construction													1			1
<b>Contructions, outside scope profarm</b>																
road	1	1		1												2
bridge													1			1
clinic	1	1		1		1									1	4
school		1	1	1				1							1	5
construct social gathering place				1												1
toilet				1			1	1		1					1	5
<b>Other assistance, outside scope profarm</b>																
microcredit to diversify income; business				1												1
tractor for ploughing					1		1									2
income generating activity					1											1
adult literacy course									1		1					2
<b>Assistance after ProFarm?</b>																
will other projects visit this village after profarm? (linkage)	1		1													2
Fear: after project, someone may claim assets (store, tools)					1											1

(Note: 2 groups in one village is counted as one in column 'vil'.)



## Non-project villages: changes in food security and governance, and recommendations

village group	10 a	10 w	11 a	11 y	vil.
changes food production 3 years?					
Now					
Now insufficient food	1		1		2
Current food production lasts only 2-3 months			1		1
In hunger period they eat bush yams			1		1
all expect food shortage this year (>2 months; <1 meal / day)	1		1		2
Some have already run out now, in march	1				1
Last years received EU food aid; now stopped	1				1
Until 1995, mining company supplied 1 bag rice / month			1		1
reasons for low production?					
individual farming is less productive			1		1
no money to buy tools or seed			1		1
changes in food production (besides food aid)?					
increased because swamp development by food for work EU	1				1
still insufficient; not food secure yet	1				1
Production is the same or even decreasing last 3 years			1		1
(general description)					
they have labour gangs	1				1
they use more upland (more crops) than lowland	1		1		2
70% of youth have lowland field	1				1
they already work together on constructions	1				1
What would help food security in the future?					
group work and more unity	1				1
help form NGO / donor	1				1
hard work	1				1
groundnut seed for women	1		1		2
vegetable garden for women (veg. seed)		1			1
seed rice			1		1
some money to hire work gangs			1		1
fertiliser			1		1
Involvement women / youth in decision making?					
Few elder women are involved and then inform other women		1			1
other women and youth are not heard		1			1
Youth not informed about what happens (registration?)				1	1
Youth are ordered (by chief) to clean the town				1	1
Cases are always brought to chief, who gives fines				1	1
Cases can never be resolved without chief				1	1
no change in last 3 years		1		1	2
What can be done to increase involvement?					
More involvement is needed		1			1
everytime chief is contacted, chief should also consult youth		1			1
raise awareness of chief to include youth and young women		1			1



## Non-project villages: changes in food security and governance, and recommendations

village group	10 a	10 w	11 a	11 y	vil.
changes food production 3 years?					
Now					
Now insufficient food	1		1		2
Current food production lasts only 2-3 months			1		1
In hunger period they eat bush yams			1		1
all expect food shortage this year (>2 months; <1 meal / day)	1		1		2
Some have already run out now, in march	1				1
Last years received EU food aid; now stopped	1				1
Until 1995, mining company supplied 1 bag rice / month			1		1
reasons for low production?					
individual farming is less productive			1		1
no money to buy tools or seed			1		1
changes in food production (besides food aid)?					
increased because swamp development by food for work EU	1				1
still insufficient; not food secure yet	1				1
Production is the same or even decreasing last 3 years			1		1
(general description)					
they have labour gangs	1				1
they use more upland (more crops) than lowland	1		1		2
70% of youth have lowland field	1				1
they already work together on constructions	1				1
What would help food security in the future?					
group work and more unity	1				1
help form NGO / donor	1				1
hard work	1				1
groundnut seed for women	1		1		2
vegetable garden for women (veg. seed)		1			1
seed rice			1		1
some money to hire work gangs			1		1
fertiliser			1		1
Involvement women / youth in decision making?					
Few elder women are involved and then inform other women		1			1
other women and youth are not heard		1			1
Youth not informed about what happens (registration?)				1	1
Youth are ordered (by chief) to clean the town				1	1
Cases are always brought to chief, who gives fines				1	1
Cases can never be resolved without chief				1	1
no change in last 3 years		1		1	2
What can be done to increase involvement?					
More involvement is needed		1			1
everytime chief is contacted, chief should also consult youth		1			1
raise awareness of chief to include youth and young women		1			1



**Partners: CARD, MAFFS, District Council; Recommendations (2/2)**

Partner Location	CARD	MAFFS		District C. Moyamba	Total
		Bo	Tonkolili		
<b>Decentralisation</b>					
now more funds are easier accessible for MAFFS than before			1		1
District concil now monitors all activities			1		1
most councillors are in town (freetown, moyamba): no contact with villages				1	1
Councillors should hold monthly ward meetings				1	1
next elections (contituency based, not district block): better contact				1	1
Councillors disappointed with sitting and travel allowance; have job in town				1	1
Villages should take more initiatives				1	1
Chiefs should collect taxes and forward 40% to District				1	1
There is an increase in participation of civil society, but not in all villages				1	1
In some cases: town chiefs and ward councillors work together				1	1
In other cases: town chiefs see ward councillors as threat				1	1
Would be better if councillors were not nominated by political parties				1	1
Councillor does not forward all info from wards to District				1	1
Perhaps Councillors prefer to keep quiet about project inputs				1	1
<b>ABU (general info)</b>					
400 members: 16 groups of 25 farmers; individual loan of seed			1		1
each member has to create seedbank			1		1
ABU already organised: for MAFFS easy to work with			1		1
UNDP now provides funds to cover fuel costs tractors			1		1
ABU: mostly individual fields			1		1
Youth project FAO not successfull; better include youth in mixed groups			1		1



## **Profarm staff comments**

(incomplete: restitution discussions with staff [Bo, Freetown] is not yet included)

### *Field staff comments*

#### Govern

less fines to youth  
people (youth) stay in village  
womens right more respected  
before: chieftdom simply asked food  
now: villages don't automaticallt give  
less wife beating and fighting

#### FFS

farmers want their own FFS in each village (F: FFS field I suppose)  
However, continue exchanging info between villages; so rotate

#### Water

Drinking water has very high priority: can we install more well than planned?  
use other budget, e.g. from market stores??

#### Project extension

project extension needed to monitor pay back loan processing equipment

#### Decentralisation

Ward councillor expected too many benefits from projects (inputs, awarding and commision from  
contruction work);  
did not receive; disappointed: no good relation Councillors - ProFarm

#### Peter Gombo's recommendations, over halfway evaluation

##### Recommendations for this project period

1. new groups to accomodate interested farmers not yet in group, to avoid pockets of wealth
2. Certain community works (road, bridge) suitabel for food for work (access important for FS)
3. Use some budget foreseen for marketstores for wells - higher priority for beneficiaries
4. Other request, outside project objectives (FS and Gov), link to other service providers
5. Link with markets outside community, through market and price info, to avoid low prices paid by middlemen
6. Women are interested in mreking and business skills; income will help them also with equal rights
7. Encourage willingness project villages to help other vilages, even without project funds (e.g. seed on loan; tools from project)

##### Recommendations for new / other projects

- 1 Focus on group work
- 2 Look at livestock
- 3 Consider handpump as alternative for open well with pouly; more hygiene
- 4 AFter local elections next year, give councillors a chance for improved contact with comunities through project
- 5 continue with partnerships (as CARD and MAFFS)
- 6 Mechanisation (tractors for ploughing)

