

REPORT ON THE WORLD FOOD DAY COMMEMORATION
PREPARED BY:



**AMOS B MASSAQUOI CEO PRESENTING AN OVERVIEW OF EDO-SL PARTNERSHIP WITH
FASTERCAPITAL AT THE WORLD FOOD DAY COMMEMORATION
VENUE OF PROGRAM: MOYAMBA DISTRICT LOCAL COUNCIL HALL**

DATE: 18TH OCTOBER 2025

SPONSORED BY: ETHNIC YOUTH DEVELOPMENT ORGANISATION (EYDO—SL)



The meeting process commenced with Muslim and Christians prayers and other courtesies

Sheik Mustapha Tarawally in his prayers gave special thanks to the **Donors/FASTERCAPITAL** and the organisers of the program as the commemoration of World Food Day stands as a special occasion that highlights the importance of food security in the world. He concluded with the recitation of the Alfattia for successful conduct of the meeting.

Pastor Ibrahim Sawaneh buttressed the importance attached to the World Food day commemoration and the collaboration with the esteemed Donor Partners (FASTERCAPITAL. He stressed that the occasion should be observed every year to provide more orientation of the youth to undertake large scale food production activities.

Welcome address and purpose of the occasion

Philip Lansana started by welcoming participants mostly farmers and other stakeholders to the gathering which he emphasized was timely and development oriented.

Lansana commented that the World Food Day is a day set aside by the United Nations Food and Agricultural Organisation in 1979 to raise awareness and promote actions against hunger and malnutrition worldwide. That day is important for the citizens to widely observe in collaboration with World Food Program (WFP). That the country's food production initiatives supported by the Government under the FEED SALONE food sufficiency program can only be successful if every body put hands together. For our country, we have decided to commemorate the days to strengthen youth full participation in farming of our staple food and crops rather than drugs which are ravaging the country. Stressing on the importance of building partnership with International Donors, he expressed sincere thanks and appreciation to FASTER CAPITAL who is frequent communication with EYDO-SL for sustainable crop production support. That FASTER CAPITAL is a philanthropist organization ready to collaborate with wide range of partners. He concluded that EYDO-SL has signed Memorandum of Agreement with the agency for implementation of food production activities and

they are in regular communications with the Chief Executive Officer in the best interest of our farmers.

OVERVIEW OF EYDO-SL PARTNERSHIP WITH FASTERCAPITAL/EQUITYPILOT

Amos Massaquoi the CEO in his statement expressed heartfelt appreciation and greetings to the CEO Dr. Hesham Zreik ,Sella Aourabi and the entire team working with Fastercapital. He stated that the agency has the onus to ensure that the organization lives up to the expectations of the people and the country. On the issues of the World Food Day commemoration which is the subject of discussions in the gathering, he lamented on the faith of youth involvement in drugs than building a strong living standard. He admonished the participants to take the occasion very important and effective with the objectives of increasing food crops production for economic sustainability and peaceful coexistence.

The CEO concluded that the efforts to collaborate with international partners should be treated with high level importance as the country is cashtrapped and cannot support Civil society organisations working on food production. Massaquoi concluded FASTER CAPITAL is promoting global investing over \$696 million and supporting over 742 startups to raise more \$2.2 billion in total funding as for a report in 2025.

INTRODUCTION OF CHAIRMAN BY PATRICK POKAWA

Pokawa introduced the Chairman Dr. Johaness Bassie as a seasoned Civil Society Activist for year now and that he has the experience to manage some critical situations in the best interest of the citizens. He stressed on the importance of the World Food Day and the relevance of FASTERCAPITAL in building a strong farming system that stand to benefit every Sierra Leonean.

He concluded that Dr. Bassis is tasked with giving the participants the feeling of belonging to the farming systems for proactive involvement in the increased food crops production.

Chairman Dr. Johaness Bassie in his presentation stated that he is presenting that comprehensive information for increased participation and understanding that the country is blessed to have FASTERCAPITAL as the esteem donor through Ethnic Youth Development Organisation. Dr. Bassie admonished the stakeholders and the youth to deviate from palnting of marijuana or other substances but to

engage themselves in food crops production. He concluded that the meeting was important having it in predominant farming communities like Moyamba district. On the issues of the World Food Day Commemoration, he stressed on the articulating factors that precipitate increase the food crops production in communities. That the District Agricultural Officers invited to the meeting must ensure that the distribution of inputs provided by the Ministry of Agriculture and other partners supporting the food production drive in the country.

STATEMENT BY KEY NOTE SPEAKER

Minister's representative John Kamara in his speech said he apologized for the absence of the Minister since he was attending another very important function with the President on increasing the awareness on the FEED SALONE initiatives. He furthered that the occasion was significant since the day has the theme: (WATER IS LIFE, WATER IS FOOD, LEAVE NO ONE BEHIND). He emphasized on the importance of youth involvement in farming which is the key to national development and economic prosperity and concluded that the District Agricultural Officer's in the meeting is relevant and strategic for him to disseminate the information to his colleagues in the other districts.

DISCUSSIONS ON IMPROVING YOUTH INVOLVEMENT IN RAPID FOOD CROPS PRODUCTION

Leading the discussions, Moriba Kanneh expressed thanks and appreciation for the program and requested each and everyone to state their involvement in food crops production and types of crops very common in their vicinity.

ELIZABETH KENNEH expressed thanks and appreciation for the meeting and stated that she has a CBO that is working on pepper production at a very large scale at Baiwalla to Dea Chiefdom in Kailahun district. She said she was facing challenges with very limited funding opportunities but depended on the increased production and marketing. That she was trained in marketing and entrepreneurship skills which is an advantage to the clustered groups.

PARAMOUNT CHIEF FODAY GULAMA of KAIYAMBA Chiefdom in his statement praised Ethnic Youth Development Organisation for bringing the program to his chiefdom and more particularly Moyamba district in general. On the other hand he expressed thanks and appreciation for the collaboration with the

FASTERCAPITAL for the first time in the country. he concluded that there is every need for the Government to support the efforts and for the minister of agriculture to strongly recognize the organization among all onters in the country. **Catherine Forbie** buttressing the statements said has several years of experience in vegetable gardening and is receiving support from Sierra Rutile. That the Company procures their vegetable needs from her establishment which has made the women very active in agricultural activities in the Imperie Chiefdom.



Catherine Forbie's PODOOH Women's Agricultural Group in the vegetable farm in Imperie

ORIENTATION OF PARTICIPANTS OF YOUTH AND FARMERS IN AGROBUSINESS

Civil Society Organisation representative David Kanneh in his approach highlighted that it was prudent to have the youth playing pivotal roles in farming as the most relevant labour force in any community in the country but however said he was disappointed with the low level of their participation but rather bike riding and other social activities that less productive in the communities.

Member of Parliament Mohamed Kanneh categorically emphasized on the importance of having international donor support for farming activities since the country imports huge amount of our staple food rice.

Paramount Chief Hon PC Hadja Miema Kajue



Hon.PC making a statement of her desire to fully involve in farming. That her chieftom has very weak people who only rely on sand mining and logging for sustenance and economic activities.

RESOLUTIONS FOR TWENTY FARMING CLUSTERS FOR INCLUSIVE CROPS FARMING

The following groups are registered with the Ethnic Youth Development Organisation as formidable farming groups and identified by the participants as very active farming groups in the various chieftoms.



1. Podooh Women's Association---Dea chiefdom ,Kailahun district
2. Farming Leading Our World --- Koribondo town, Bo district
3. Voice of Farmers advocacy network---Makeni----Bombali district
4. Baiwalla Education and Agricultural Development----Baiwalla Dea chiefdom

5. Dandabu Farmers Development Association—Dandabu Pujehun District
6. Parents Without Partners---Mongere Bo District
7. Kaiyamba women's Development Association, Moyamba town
8. Ngoworyehdoma Women's agricultural Association—Sienga town Dea .
9. Widow Empowerment Organisation, Kenema Kenema district
10. Child Welfare Society --- Daru----Kailahun District
11. Pejeh West Family Bunumbu town Kailahun District
12. Tekuya Women farmers Association---Gbahama town Dea chiefdom
13. Kpangbama Women farmers Association—Pkgangbama town—Moyamba
14. Kissi Tongi Women farmers Association Kailahun district
15. SLAAHM Jojoima town –Kailahun district
16. Health for All Coalition—Freetown, Western area
17. MICCO Farmers association –Kambia
18. ECO Farmers---Kambia
19. Farmers Federation--- Pujehun town Pujehun district
20. Moa agricultural development Association

EXHIBITION OF PRODUCTS AT THE COMMEMORATION

The participants were earlier informed about presentation of their product at the occasion and below are some of the items to showcase their farm products





The exhibitions climaxed the exemplary importance of the World Food Day Commemoration as the participants demonstrated their willingness to work with the Ethnic Youth Development Organisation.

SUCSESSES AND ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE PROGRAM

1. Ethnic Youth Development Organisation was successful in mobilizing the most needed resources both financial and human to organize the World Food Day Commemoration at all costs.
2. There was overwhelming attendance of participants at the occasion
3. There was full participation of all the attendees with the Paramount Chiefs showing their interest and desire to continue their attendance in future activities
4. Participants willingly showcased their products at the exhibition session without any financial request.
5. The participants accepted the minimal transportation refunds provided by the EYDO-SL without any challenges.

CHALLENGES INCURED IN ENSURING THAT THE WORLD FOOD DAY COMMEMORATION WAS HOSTED.

1. There was limited funding that could have made the program more realistic and result oriented.
2. There was inadequate funds for coordination hence the staff used their meager resources in the best interest of EYDO-SL
3. Concerns for lack of response from the Partners –FASTERCAPITAL /EQUITY PILOT since the organisation's credibility was under tests.
4. The criteria for full partnership agreements with the Government (Service Level Agreement) are now the major challenge that should be addressed.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. FASTERCAPITAL /EQUITYPILOT program use their good offices to respond to the funding promises as the organization has some financial obligations to be fulfilled.
2. EYDO-SL has acquired the temporary Service Level Agreement with the Ministry of Agriculture and Food security but the requirement is for EYDO-SL to establish its funding opportunities to the entity.

3. The final Service Level Agreement can only be signed with Ministry of Agriculture upon availability of funding from FASTERCAPITAL as soon as possible.