
KALANTHUBA CHIEFDOM

Community Development Plan

2020 – 2022

Prepared in collaboration with the Houghton College Program

in International Development

May 2019



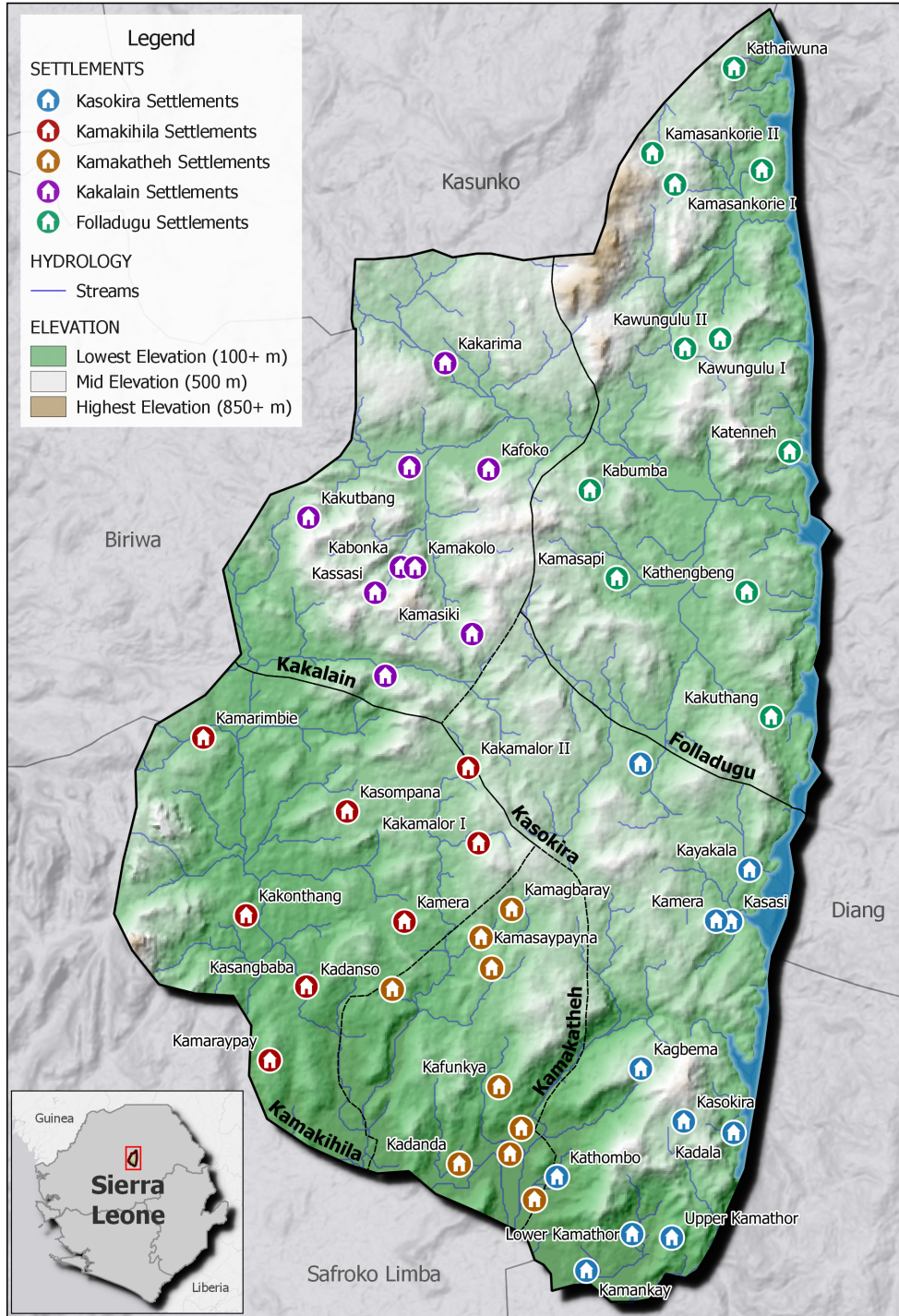
Kalanthuba Chiefdom

Tonkolili District

Northern Region

Sierra Leone

Kalanthuba Chiefdom



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INTRODUCTION

Kalanthuba Chiefdom prepared this community development plan in cooperation with the Program in International Development at Houghton College (USA). The plan was developed in a participatory process that included community members and leaders at all levels—village, section, and chiefdom.

The planning process included the following steps:

1. **Baseline information**, drawn from a study conducted in collaboration with a Houghton College faculty-student research team in 2017.
2. **Brainstorming session** among chiefdom leaders and stakeholders to propose goals and objectives (May 2019).
3. **Consultative process** to review proposed goals and objectives with villagers in 50 group sessions with a total of 766 participants in 15 locations throughout the chiefdom. Group sessions were divided into three groups: village leaders and elders; women, and male youth.
4. **Oral and written report of findings** from the consultative process to chiefdom leaders and stakeholders.

The purpose of the plan is to foster and inspire community development throughout the chieftom while preserving the culture of village life among its *Limba* people. The plan provides a succinct account of goals and objectives for a 3-year period, 2020-22, as a means to

- **Guide** leaders and community members in community development.
- **Coordinate** development across all sectors: infrastructure, education, health, agriculture, alternative livelihoods, and natural resources.
- **Explain** the goals and objectives of Kalanthuba development to partners and funding agencies, fostering collaboration and fundraising.



Consultative Meeting with Village Women

I. DESCRIPTIVE BACKGROUND

A. Kalanhuba Chiefdom

LOCATION: Tonkolili District [near Bumbuna Town], Northern Region, Sierra Leone, West Africa.

AREA: 96.2 square miles.

POPULATION: 9,390 (estimated, 2017).

LANGUAGE/ETHNICITY: Predominantly *Limba* (most also speaking *Krio*, some English)

LITERACY: Adult literacy rate is an estimated *two percent* (2017).

RELIGION: Christian (majority) and Muslim.

CLIMATE: Tropical, wet and dry seasons.

TERRAIN: Semi-mountainous.

PROMINENT FEATURES: Bumbuna Dam and Reservoir on Seli/Rokel River; Bumbuna Falls; Bumbuna Conservation Area

B. Chiefdom Communities: 40 villages in 5 sections

<u>SECTIONS</u>	<u>VILLAGES</u> (HQ bold)	<u>EST. POP. (2017)</u>
KASOKIRA	Kasokira , Kadala, Kamankay, Kamathr, Kamasapie, Kamera, Kasasie, Kathombo, Kawonor, Kayakala, Kegbema	4,371

FOLLADUGU	Kateneh , Kabunban, Kakuthan, Kamasapie, Kamasaypayna, Kasankori, Kathengben, Kathaywuna, Kawangulu	1,794
KAMAKIHILA	Kamera , Kakamalar, Kakonthan, Kamaraypay, Kamarimbe, Kasangbanba, Kasonpona	1.385
KAKALAIN	Kakarima , Kabonka, Kafogo, Kaibana, Kakuthan, Kamasikie, Kasasie	1.192
KAMAKATHEH	Kadandan , Kadanso, Kafugia, Kamagbarain, Kamasaypayna, Kawonor II	702

C. Natural Assets

FORESTS: On average, 16% of village lands is forested—a source of building materials, vines and fibers for rope, foods, fruits, spices, bush meat, and medicinal herbs, while providing wildlife habitat, firebreaks, and shade. Forest plus bush (fallow land) covers on average 36% of village lands.

WATER: The Bumbuna Reservoir stretches for 23 km on the Seli/Rokel River along the eastern boundary of the chiefdom. Most villages have access to streams (primary source of drinking water), subject to seasonal variation including frequent drought. Seven villages have access to springs.

FARMLAND: Most non-forested land has been converted to agriculture, including fallow bush. On average, 45% of village land is under cultivation at any time, including upland (cultivated during the wet season), inland valley swamp (cultivated year-round), and boliland (grassland). No irrigation.

WILDLIFE: Seli/Rokel River valley is home to 444 butterfly species, 229 bird species, 53 amphibian and reptile species, and 31 small mammal species. In Kalanthuba, primates include the critically endangered West Africa chimpanzee (one group of 4-5 individuals), baboons, and several monkey species (including endangered red colobus). Various duiker species (including endangered (Jentink's duiker), various pangolins (vulnerable).

PLANT LIFE: The plant biodiversity of the Seli/Rokel River valley is in the top 5% of the Upper Guinea ecosystem.

D. Livelihoods

SUBSISTENCE

FARMING: Nearly all villagers use a rotational bush-fallow system for subsistence. Fallow periods average 7 years. Farm plots of 3-5 acres are rotated among households within landowning families (kin groups), headed by a male elder, also allowing access by members of non-landowning families.



Bumbuna Dam and Reservoir

CASH CROPS: Groundnut, peppers, and a range of garden vegetables, grown by most subsistence farmers. All markets are local.

AGRO-

FORESTRY: Tree crops include orange, banana, kola nut, oil palm, and mango, grown both for consumption and market throughout the chiefdom. Some coffee is grown for market. Total chiefdom tree-crop acreage is estimated at 363 acres.

LIVESTOCK: Mainly chickens, goats, and sheep. Villagers grow no cattle, but transhumant Fullah people graze cattle on some village lands seasonally.

TRAPPING AND

FISHING: Small game trapping is common, both for pest control and food, as is fishing in streams with nets and by canoe on Bumbuna Reservoir (more limited). A small number of fish ponds have been introduced in Kasokira section.

OTHERS: Blacksmithing with traditional tools, tree tapping (extracting sap to make palm wine), and weaving are common. A few villagers work as teachers or petty traders. Salaried occupations outside the village are rare.

E. Material Assets

ROADS AND

FOOTPATHS: Much of the chiefdom has extremely limited accessibility. Earth roads provide access to 16 of the 40 villages, but only half of those have access year-round. Two sections—Kakalain and Folladugu—lack road access entirely. Footpaths connect villages throughout the chiefdom, subject to seasonal flooding. All roads and footpaths are maintained by villagers using hand tools (but villagers have similarly begun building earth roads, see Goals and Objectives below). Bumbuna Reservoir provides water access by a single motorboat to villages located along the chiefdom’s eastern border.

HOUSING: Housing consists of traditional structures, clustered in village settlements. Roughly half have walls of mud brick and zinc roofs, and half have walls of sticks and mud and thatch roofs. However, zinc roofing is increasing. Most floors (80%) are earth. Open fires are typically used for cooking, and a mix of firewood and battery or solar-power torches supply interior lighting.

ELECTRICITY: Despite hosting the country’s largest hydroelectric power facility, the chiefdom lacks access to electricity except for the facility’s operations camp at Bumbuna Dam and a single village—Kamankay—the largest village in the chiefdom, where 10 houses use electric power.

SANITATION: Common latrines supply sanitation throughout the chiefdom. The number is limited (outside Kamankay, which has some 200 latrines, there are only 3.6 latrines per village), causing most villagers to rely on the bush. Only a single small village has VIP latrines.

WATER WELLS: The chiefdom has only a few working wells (some limited to use by schools and health posts) and 5 protected springs, so that villagers rely largely on surface water, mostly untreated.

MARKET: There is no market facility in the chiefdom. The closest market is in Bumbuna Town, across the Seli/Rokel River.

HOUSES OF

WORSHIP: The chiefdom has 8 village church buildings and 2 mosques.

HYDROELECTRIC

COMPOUND: Located at the site of Bumbuna Dam, the hydroelectric compound includes two sections of lodging plus food preparation facilities, a large swimming pool, and community meeting space. One section consists of 8 blocks of single rooms with bath, totaling 69 rooms, and a conference room. A second section has 12 houses, each with 2 bedrooms, living room, kitchen, and bath. A resident engineers camp consists of 6 two-bedroom houses.

F. Human Assets

SCHOOLS: Kalanthuba has 7 primary schools and 1 junior secondary school. All originated as “community schools,” with little or no government support, and only one now is a government approved school entitled to certified teachers. There are only two government-approved school buildings, both primary. Structures constructed by local communities house the others. **The majority of primary school-age children in half or more of chiefdom villages do not attend school.**

HEALTH POSTS: Two Maternal and Child Health Posts serve the chiefdom, one staffed by 2 nurses and the other by 2 nursing aides. Nearly half of the chiefdom’s 40 villages rely mainly on traditional healers, and childbirth occurs mainly in the village in just over half of villages. Childhood vaccination is common, though not universal, in the chiefdom. Bed nets to protect against malaria are rarely used.

G. Social Assets

TRADITIONAL

GOVERNANCE: Kalanthuba is one of 190 traditional chiefdoms in Sierra Leone. It was restored in 2017 after 64 years of amalgamation with a neighboring chiefdom, a legacy of British colonialism. Chiefdoms are led by a Paramount Chief elected for life from a royal family by chiefdom counselors chosen from throughout the chiefdom. Kalanthuba is presently led by a government-appointed Regent Chief as it awaits the election in May 2020. Other chiefdom officers include a Speaker, who assists the chief, a chairlady, youth leader, administrative clerk, and judges. A chiefdom council makes policy and adopts bye-laws. Each section is led by a section chief. Each village is led by a headman, chairlady or “mammy queen,” and youth leader.

TONKOLILI

DISTRICT: The district is governed by an elected chairperson and local council elected from wards. A local educator from Kalanthuba represents the ward for Kalanthuba on the local council.

BWMA: The *Bumbuna Watershed Management Authority* is a unit of the Ministry of Energy created to regulate land use and conservation practices in the Bumbuna watershed along the Seli/Rokel River. The BWMA secretariat and professional staff are located at the hydroelectric camp near Bumbuna Dam in Kalanthuba.

BCA: The Bumbuna Conservation Area is a 3,532 ha protected area located near Bumbuna Dam in Kalanthuba Chiefdom, managed by the BWMA. Eight villages lost land to the BCA, where farming and trapping are formally prohibited. The BCA is home to numerous primates, including the critically endangered West Africa chimpanzee and other vulnerable animal species, birds, and reptiles.

VILLAGE SOCIAL

INSTITUTIONS: Village and family life is based on sharing numerous community responsibilities while enjoying common benefits. Shared responsibilities include the maintenance of roads, footpaths, bridges, and water sources. All villages have traditional men's and women's societies (often called "secret societies"), which conduct initiation activities, provide socialization, and maintain separate sacred forests, contributing to conservation. Although farming is conducted by individuals or households, rotational labor groups assist with various aspects. Some 91 such groups operate at various times in the chiefdom's 40 villages. Savings and loan groups, present in a few villages, are increasing in number.



Consultative Meeting with Village Youth

II. GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

The development plan consists of six broad goals, accompanied by specific objectives to be implemented within a 3-year period.

GOAL 1: INCREASE THE ACCESSIBILITY OF VILLAGES THROUGHOUT THE CHIEFDOM.

Because a majority of villages lack year-round road access, and all villages in two sections lack road access entirely, this goal is a chiefdom imperative. Lack of road access has crosscutting effects, inhibiting school enrollment and attendance, health care, and marketing of agricultural produce. Improvements in these sectors depend of improved road infrastructure.

OBJECTIVE 1-A

BUILD AND MAINTAIN ROADS BY MEANS OF VILLAGE SELF-HELP.

Village youth in various parts of the chiefdom have demonstrated the ability to build new roads as well as maintain existing roads, using hand tools, and they are committed to doing so to the maximum possible extent.

OBJECTIVE 1-B

CREATE AND SUSTAIN A TOOLS LIBRARY FOR USE BY VILLAGE ROAD BUILDERS.

OBJECTIVE 1-C

OBTAIN OUTSIDE SUPPORT TO ASSIST IN ROAD BUILDING WHEN HAND TOOLS ARE INADEQUATE, FOR EXAMPLE, BUILDING BRIDGES AND CULVERTS.

OBJECTIVE 1-D

APPLY TO BUMBUNA HYDROELECTRIC PROJECT, PHASE II, FOR FUNDING TO SUPPORT DEVELOPMENT OF A COMPREHENSIVE ROAD NETWORK PLAN TO GUIDE FUTURE ROAD-BUILDING.

The plan should include:

- *The design and siting of roads appropriate to rough and hilly terrain.*
- *Roads that can support automobiles as well as bike-roads to more remote villages.*
- *Future access to schools, health facilities, and markets, many of which are still to be developed.*

GOAL 2: INCREASE THE NUMBER OF PRIMARY SCHOOLS IN THE CHIEFDOM.

Given that the majority of children in a majority of villages lack access to a primary school, both justice and development require new school formation.

OBJECTIVE 2-A

ENCOURAGE AND SUPPORT CLUSTERS OF VILLAGES TO CREATE AND MAINTAIN COMMUNITY PRIMARY SCHOOLS THAT SERVE MULTIPLE VILLAGES.

All schools operating in Kalanhuba began as community schools without government support, and all but two continue as community schools. Formation of community schools is the fastest, most effective way to expand educational opportunity in the chiefdom. Schools can serve clusters of villages that are located within walking distance.

OBJECTIVE 2-B

REQUEST VILLAGES TO REQUIRE THAT ALL HOUSEHOLDS PROVIDE FINANCIAL OR IN-KIND SUPPORT TO THE PRIMARY SCHOOL THAT SERVES THE VILLAGE CHILDREN.

Village schools provide benefits to all households in the village regardless of whether the household has children who attend.

OBJECTIVE 2-C

ESTABLISH A CHIEFDOM LIBRARY TO COLLECT AND SUPPLY BOOKS AND LEARNING MATERIALS TO SCHOOLS AND ADULT LEARNERS.

This will relieve individual schools of the constant burden of seeking needed books and materials.

OBJECTIVE 2-D

SEEK PARTNERS WHO WILL HELP TO PROVIDE CONTINUING EDUCATION FOR PRIMARY SCHOOL TEACHERS.

Most community school teachers are uncertified and can benefit from ongoing opportunities for additional learning.



Kamankay Community Primary School

GOAL 3: IMPROVE THE HEALTH OF THE KALANTHUBA PEOPLE.

Kalanthubans believe that “health is wealth,” meaning that good health is desired not only for its own sake but for a host of development objectives from ability to attend school regularly to the ability to work and earn a livelihood.

OBJECTIVE 3-A

MAKE WATER SAFE TO DRINK IN EVERY VILLAGE.

Lack of safe drinking water is a major contributor to health problems in Kalanthuba. Further study is needed to explore how best to meet this need—whether by means of water treatment or improved water sources.

OBJECTIVE 3-B

INCREASE THE NUMBER OF HEALTH POSTS, PRIORITY GIVEN TO SECTIONS WITHOUT A HEALTH POST AT PRESENT.

The two existing health posts do not provide adequate access to health care for the majority of villages. Three sections lack a health post, and some sections need more than one.

OBJECTIVE 3-C

INCREASE THE NUMBER OF COMMUNITY HEALTH WORKERS (CHWs) AND COMMUNITY HEALTH CLUBS.

CHWs can organize community health clubs to provide ongoing encouragement for better hygiene, nutrition, and water treatment as needed.

GOAL 4: EXPAND ALTERNATIVE SOURCES OF LIVELIHOOD IN THE CHIEFDOM.

Nearly all residents of Kalanthuba are subsistence farmers. While farming is expected to continue as the major source of livelihood, alternatives are needed to augment household income and improve standards of living.

OBJECTIVE 4-A

ORGANIZE A CHIEFDOM-WIDE COOPERATIVE TO EXPAND MARKETING OF AGRICULTURAL PRODUCE AND TREE CROPS.

Kalanthuba produces a variety of marketable crops, including mangoes, oranges, bananas, and coffee. Presently, individual farmers and agro-foresters are limited mostly to local markets, reachable on foot.

OBJECTIVE 4-B

INCREASE ACCESS TO LOCAL MARKETS BY ROTATING WEEKLY MARKETS AMONG THE FIVE SECTIONS OF THE CHIEFDOM.

For most farmers the closest local market is in Bumbuna, outside the chiefdom. Rotating weekly markets among the five sections will make it easier to market crops locally.

OBJECTIVE 4-C

SEEK PARTNERS TO HELP PROVIDE LITERACY AND SKILLS TRAINING TO ADULTS.

With an estimated adult literacy rate of 2 percent, Kalanthuba cannot wait on primary and secondary education to produce a reasonably literate population. Adult education is essential—also for skills training to access livelihoods in addition to traditional farming.

GOAL 5: CONSERVE THE LAND, WATER, FORESTS, AND WILDLIFE OF KALANTHUBA.

Essential to the village way of life, natural resources are also important assets for development. Yet all are exposed to potential degradation through excessive or improper use and extraction.

OBJECTIVE 5-A

SENSITIZE VILLAGERS TO THE IMPORTANCE OF CONSERVATION BY MEANS OF ONGOING ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION.

OBJECTIVE 5-B

ENSURE THE EFFECTIVENESS AND INTEGRITY OF THE BUMBUNA CONSERVATION AREA (BCA) AS A PROTECTED AREA.

OBJECTIVE 5-C

SECURE START-UP FUNDING AND LAUNCH A VILLAGE-BASED ECOTOURISM PROJECT FOCUSED ON THE BCA.



Footpath through Farmland in Kasokira Section

GOAL 6: BUILD UNITY AND SOLIDARITY FOR DEVELOPMENT THROUGHOUT KALANTHUBA CHIEFDOM.

As a recently restored chiefdom, the people of Kalanthuba are aware of the need to build unity and practice solidarity in pursuing our development goals. Presently, we anticipate the election of a paramount chief to provide overarching leadership. Yet, we are not waiting to begin pursuing development.

OBJECTIVE 6-A

CREATE A CHIEFDOM DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE (CDC), AS WELL AS SECTION DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEES (SDCs) AND VILLAGE DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEES (VDCs) THROUGHOUT THE CHIEFDOM.

Each VDC should be represented on their SDC, and each SDC on the CDC, linking the development committees at all levels of the chiefdom.

OBJECTIVE 6-B

COMMISSION A STUDY OF THE ONGOING CONFLICT BETWEEN FARMERS AND CATTLE HERDERS IN PARTS OF THE CHIEFDOM WITH A VIEW TO RESOLVING THE CONFLICT.

The study should be conducted by a partnering organization.



Kasokira Village Settlement

III. EXPECTED IMPACTS BY 2022

GOALS

Goal 1: Accessibility

A. Village Self-Help

IMPACTS

- > Diversion of road by Dayna Hill from Kamasapie to Kafungia
- > Completion of road accessing Kadanso
- > Improvement/maintenance of Kadala-Kasasie road
- > Improvement/maintenance of road to Kegbema
- > Improvement/maintenance of road to Kasokira
- > Completion of road from Kakamalor to Kakamalor I
- > Completion of road to Kamarimbe
- > Completion of Kasasie – Kamera road
- > Completion of Kamasaypayna – Kamagberain road
- > Improvement/maintenance of Kamasaypayna – Kamera road
- > Completion of road from Kasasie to Kakuthan

- B. Tools Library > Tools library functioning to supply tools for self-help road building and maintenance
- C. Bridges and Culverts > Support for bridge and culvert Construction
- D. Master Plan for Roads > Chiefdom-wide master plan for development of a sustainable road network is in place

Goal 2: Primary Schools

- A. New Cluster Schools
 - > Start-up schools at Kawangulu (Folladugu) and Kamakolo (Kakalain) are established on a firm basis
 - > School at Kasokira is re-established on a firm basis
 - > At least one new cluster school is established
- B. Library > Chiefdom library is functioning to supply books and materials for schools and adult education programs
- C. Continuing Teacher Education > Continuing education for primary and secondary school teachers in Kalanthuba is on-going

Goal 3: Health

- A. Safe Water > Safe water is available to drink in every village
- B. Health Posts > At least one new health post is established and more are committed to by government
- C. CHWs and Health Clubs > CHWs are present in every village, and the number of health clubs has increased

Goal 4: Livelihoods

- A. Marketing Co-Op > Chiefdom-wide marketing cooperative is functioning, providing access to distant markets for agricultural produce
- B. Weekly Section Markets > Local market rotates weekly among the five sections
- C. Training > Literacy and skills training is ongoing, available throughout the chiefdom

Goal 5: Conservation

- A. Education/Sensitization > Environmental education is ongoing in all villages bordering the Bumbuna Conservation Area (BCA) and beyond
- B. Bumbuna Conservation Area > Forests and wildlife habitat in BCA are effectively protected

C. Ecotourism

> Ecotourism project is underway in BCA area with strong village participation and support for cultural preservation

Goal 6: Unity and Solidarity

A. Village Development Committees (VDCs)

> Trained VDCs are active in each village, linked to development committees at section and chiefdom levels

B. Conflict Resolution

> Based on an independent study, steps are being taken to resolve conflicts between farmers and cattle herders



Consultative Meeting with Villages Leaders and Elders

IV. PARTNERSHIPS

Kalanthuba Chiefdom is blessed by strong partnerships that strengthen the chiefdom’s ability to pursue development goals and objectives. The number of collaborating partners is expected to grow as development proceeds.

Current Partners:

Bumbuna Watershed Management Authority (BWMA)

The BWMA is a key partner, headquartered in the chiefdom at the compound for Bumbuna Dam. The eastern portion of two sections of the chiefdom—Kasokira and Follodugu—are located with the Watershed. BWMA also manages the Bumuna Conservation Area (BCA), located entirely with the Chiefdom. The chiefdom collaborates with BWMA on goals and objectives related to conservation, including ecotourism, as well as other goals and objectives with respect to villages within the Watershed.

Bumbuna Hydroelectric Project, Phases I and II

The Bumbuna Dam and Reservoir are major assets for Kalanthuba Chiefdom. The Chiefdom collaborates with the project management on issues related to impact mitigation resulting from displacement due to reservoir construction and ancillary effects as well as water quality and tourism.

Local Council for Tonkolili District

Working through Kalanthuba’s elected representative, Counselor James Kamara, the Chiefdom collaborates with the Local Council on all issues related to development, in particular those dealing with roads, schools, and health posts.

Centre for Attitudinal Change and Sustainable Development (CePAD)

Under the direction of its founder and CEO, Daniel Sara Turay, a member of the royal family of Kalanthuba chiefdom, CePAD is a registered NGO headquartered in Kalanthuba (Kamankay Town) and works closely with chiefdom leaders in the implementation of development plans.

Houghton College (USA)

An American undergraduate institution affiliated with the Wesleyan Church, Houghton College has been working closely with the chiefdom since 2017. Houghton research teams produced a baseline development study of the chiefdom in 2017, studied various development opportunities in 2018, and assisted with the preparation of the present development plan in 2019.

Pending and Future Partnerships:

The chiefdom looks forward to collaborative relationships with various government ministries, including the Ministry of Energy and the Ministry of Tourism, as well as NGOs active in Sierra Leone, including World Hope International, Tacugama Chimp Sanctuary, Namati, Green Scenery, and Street Child, as well as various international development agencies. The chiefdom also seeks to partner with the Wesleyan Church of Sierra Leone, the Diocese of Makeni of the Roman Catholic Church, and other religious institutions, as well as institutions of higher education, including the University of Markeni (UNIMAK), the Makeni Teachers College, and other units of the University of Sierra Leone.



Kawangulu, Folladugu Section

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Thanks be to God!

