



GOVERNMENT OF SIERRA LEONE  
NATIONAL COMMISSION FOR SOCIAL ACTION  
(NaCSA)

Formerly National Commission for Reconstruction, Rehabilitation and Resettlement (NCRRR)

Press Release  
For immediate Release  
17<sup>th</sup> November 2020

**Commencement of Second Phase of COVID-19 Emergency Cash Transfer (COVID-19 ECT II) in Freetown.**

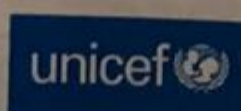
In June 2020, the National Commission for Social Action (NaCSA) received funding from the Government of Sierra Leone and the World Bank to provide relief to households greatly impacted by the negative effects of COVID-19. The COVID-19 ECT Programme (pilot) covered twenty-nine thousand (29,000) households with vulnerable informal sector workers including those working in micro and small enterprises and low paid workers in the services sector in the five regional districts headquarter cities of Freetown, Bo, Kenema, Makeni and Port Loko.

Following the successful implementation of the pilot programme, NaCSA wishes to inform its partners and the public that through the World Bank, it has received the sum of four million six hundred and fifty thousand Euros (EUR 4,650,000) from the European Union to commence implementation of Phase II of the COVID-19 ECT Programme. The COVID-19 ECT II will provide a one-off income support to thirty-six thousand (36,000) households to help them cope with the immediate negative impact of COVID-19. This second phase will also target households with vulnerable informal sector workers including those working in micro and small enterprises (MSEs) and low paid workers in the services sector in the Western Area Urban only.

On **Wednesday, 18<sup>th</sup> November 2020**, NaCSA and its partners will commence verification of potential beneficiaries in all markets across Western Area Urban. After the verification exercise, Statistics Sierra Leone, the Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC) and NaCSA will conduct assessments of the verified potential beneficiaries to determine the most vulnerable individuals to receive the benefit. Successful beneficiaries will be enrolled for the Emergency Cash Transfer (ECT) Phase II. The benefit size is **One Million, Three Hundred and Nine Thousand Leones (Le 1,309,000)** which will be paid through a Payment Service Provider on a date that will be announced later.

In consultation with the Ministry of Labour and Social Security, the Ministry of Tourism and Cultural Affairs, Freetown City Council, and Traders' Council, the following quota is allocated to stakeholders:

❖ Petty Traders:	23,400
❖ Low paid workers in the service industry	5,200
❖ Workers in hotel and tourism industry	7,400
<b>Total:</b>	<b>36,000</b>



The public is hereby reminded that no one should offer or pay anything to anybody to be prelisted/registered/enrolled in the COVID-19 ECT Programme. Any attempted extortion or corrupt practices must be reported to the ACC using the toll-free number 515 or directly to ACC Community Monitors or other ACC officials.

NaCSA reassures its commitment to strengthen implementation of Government's interventions in line with the country's Medium-Term National Development Plan (MTNDP).

**The End**

Signed:

  
Abu Bockarie Kokofele  
Commissioner – NaCSA

**For media enquiries, please contact NaCSA IEC unit;**

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