

BUMBUNA II HYDROELECTRIC POWER PROJECT

Quarterly News Update – March 2020



Introduction: Seli Hydropower

Seli Hydropower Limited (“Seli Hydropower”) is the Project Company responsible for the development, construction management and subsequent operation and maintenance of the 143 MW Bumbuna II Hydropower Project.

Welcome to our first News Update. Through these News Updates, we will provide all stakeholders with an overview of our progress every three months.

For our first News Update, we will cover the following areas;

- Establishment of the Seli Hydropower regional office and field offices
- Technical design and planning for the Kathanda Bridge crossing
- Development of key environmental and social action plans
- Scoping of Project-affected communities for community development programs
- Strengthening of the Seli Hydropower delivery team

Regional Office and Field Offices Established

Seli Hydropower has secured and equipped three new office spaces. First, the regional office in Makeni, and two field offices, one in Kondembaia (in the northern Project area) and the other in Kamankay (southern Project area).

Makeni Regional Office: The Makeni Regional Office, situated at 131 Kabala Highway, Romankneh Makeni, will serve as the main administrative hub from where technical staff will plan, coordinate and supervise project-related operations. Plans are far advanced for the phased relocation of relevant technical staff from the Freetown Central Office to the Makeni Regional Office.

Kondembaia and Kamakay Field Offices: The two field offices in Kamankay and Kondembaia will serve as the frontline stations from where field operations will be coordinated and supervised. The two field offices are currently manned by our Community Liaison Assistants recruited from among the project-affected areas.



Community Access Bridge at Kathanda Crossing

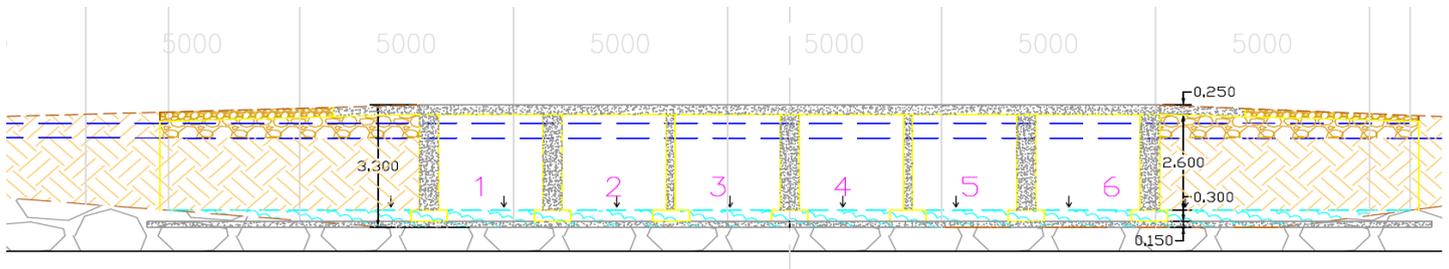
To access the Yiben dam site and Project affected communities, it is necessary to cross the Mawolkor River. This is not a problem during the dry season, but once the rains set in, access becomes a major challenge.



The construction of a bridge addresses the issue, and good progress has been made with designing a temporary bridge to enable access across the Kathanda Crossing to both the dam site and communities along the access road.

The construction of a more permanent bridge that will accommodate heavy machinery will be completed by the Engineering, Procurement and Construction ('EPC') contractor once the fundraising is finalised ('Financial Close'). However, recognising the fact that the resettlement of Project-affected communities along the access road will need to be completed before the EPC contractor commences its construction activities, Seli Hydropower in consultation with local communities, have decided to provide this temporary bridge to enable access ahead of Financial Close.

Kathanda Crossing Bridge Design



Development of Key Environmental and Social Action Plans

Seli Hydropower's Environmental and Social (E&S) team has focused on developing Action Plans related to resettlement, community development, biodiversity, and other E&S concerns.

Resettlement Action Plans (RAPs): The Project will require the resettlement of communities in the area of the Project infrastructure, and in the area of the reservoir that will be created by the Yiben Dam. Seli Hydropower will plan and implement this resettlement in these two areas: 'RAP-1' concerns communities affected by Project infrastructure, and 'RAP-2' concerns communities affected by the reservoir. A lot has been achieved under RAP-1, with the completion of the preparation of the RAP-1 plan; suitability studies on the identified relocation sites; architectural design of replacement houses and the layout of the resettlement communities; and the establishment of Village Resettlement Committees. We have also launched a Grievance Redress Mechanism, through which any affected person or stakeholder may raise grievances, whether they concern resettlement or other issues.

Community Development Action Plan (CDAP): The Project will set aside investment for community development, to ensure that local communities share in the benefits of the project. Seli Hydropower will deliver this through a Community Development Action Plan (CDAP). We have drafted our initial strategy and the proposed activities for the CDAP and have completed a scoping mission to identify potential CDAP beneficiary communities in the project area.

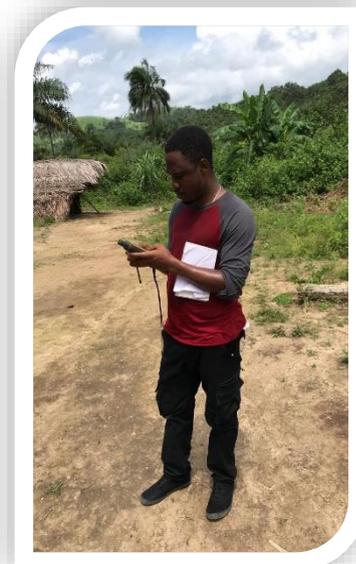
Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP): The Project will affect some populations of endangered species, including the Western Chimpanzee. We have developed this BAP to ensure that the project does not have a negative impact, and instead achieves a net positive impact on biodiversity. It will include 'offsets' where an area of forest and specific river reaches where we will protect habitats.

Environment and Social Management System (ESMS): we are developing an ESMS to systematically manage our E&S commitments, policies, procedures and plans. For example, this includes requirements of our contractors, and plans for influx management, and water quality monitoring.

Scoping of Local Communities for Development Programs

We intend that the Community Development Action Plan (CDAP) will be implemented on a community demand-driven approach that ensures that beneficiary communities are at the center of development planning and implementation, and that the supported projects are effective and efficient, and deliver a positive impact.

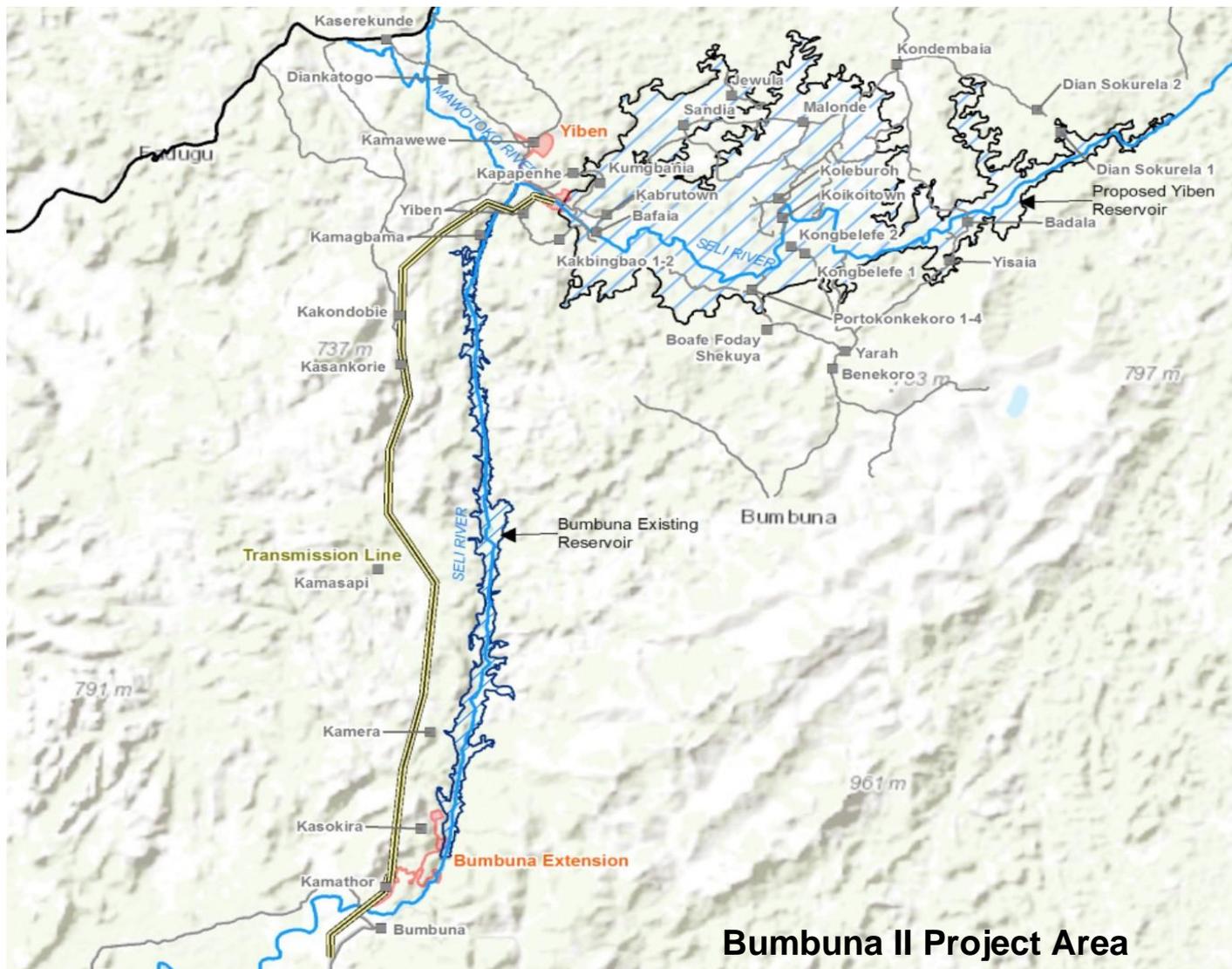
To kick this off, Seli Hydropower conducted a scoping mission in communities that may be indirectly affected by the project in 5 chiefdoms (Diang, Kalanhuba, Dasongoia, Kasunko and Safrokor Limba) and 3 districts (Koinadugu, Tonkolili and Bombali). It enabled the Seli Hydropower team to better understand the geography and the people, and their livelihoods, opportunities, and challenges, in these areas. It provides a foundation for further studies to plan the CDAP.



Strengthening of the Seli Hydropower Core Team

In preparation for Financial Close, Seli Hydropower is continuing to increase its organizational capacity. Seli Hydropower has recently recruited an Information and Communications Officer and a Finance Manager and will, in due course, make a series of new appointments, including a Health and Safety Officer, Human Resources and Labour Officers, a Land Acquisition Officer, and a Social, Gender and Livelihoods Officer. These are key roles which will assist with the first phase of resettlement and preparations for construction.





This news update is produced by the communications department in collaboration with the various departments of Seli Hydropower.

If you have an enquiry, please reach out to us at any of the addresses provided below:

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Makeni Bombali District

Seli Kamankay Field Office
Makeni Highway, Kamankay,
Kalanthuba Chiefdom,
Tonkolili District.

Seli Kondembaia Field Office
Magbaia Road,
Kondembaia Village
Daing Cheifdom
Koinadugu District

For further enquiries, please contact us on: +232 75984549 or communications@selihydropower.sl

GRIEVANCE PROCEDURE: Seli Hydropower has a Grievance Redress Mechanism (GRM) Officer that handles all concerns and queries for Project affected communities.

For any concerns, queries or recommendations related to Bumbuna II Project. Please call / send your SMS Text/WhatsApp to; +23276-767640/+23280-949888 or email: grievance@selihydropower.sl