

BANDAMA CHARITY FOUNDATION SIERRA LEONE (BCF-SL)

Motto: Save Lives | Slogan: Empowering Communities Through Service

CONCEPT NOTE

Organisation	Bandama Charity Foundation Sierra Leone (BCF-SL)
Country	Sierra Leone
Project Location	Kakua Chiefdom, Bo District, Sierra Leone
Duration	18 Months
Proposed Budget	USD \$30,000
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PROJECT TITLE

Empowering Persons with Disabilities, Vulnerable Elderly, and Poor Households Through Food Security, Hygiene Support, and Community Inclusion in Bo District, Sierra Leone

1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Bandama Charity Foundation Sierra Leone (BCF-SL) proposes the Inclusive Futures Initiative (IFI), an 18-month, rights-based disability inclusion project targeting Kakua Chiefdom, Bo District, Sierra Leone. With a total budget of USD \$30,000, the initiative will directly benefit 400 persons with disabilities, 200 children with disabilities, 200 youth and women with disabilities, and 100 caregivers and family members.

Persons with disabilities remain among the most marginalised populations in Sierra Leone, facing systemic barriers to healthcare, education, employment, accessible infrastructure, and meaningful social participation. The IFI addresses these challenges through five integrated intervention pillars: Health and Rehabilitation, Inclusive Education, Economic Empowerment, Social Inclusion and Advocacy, and Accessibility Support. Implementation will take place in close collaboration with community stakeholders, government institutions, disability organisations, and development partners.

2. RELEVANCE AND PROBLEM STATEMENT

2.1 Community Context and Needs

Despite the Sierra Leone Persons with Disability Act 2011, persons with disabilities in Kakua Chiefdom continue to face profound intersecting barriers. Key challenges include:

- Limited or no access to healthcare, physiotherapy, and rehabilitation services
- Absence of essential assistive devices, including wheelchairs, crutches, hearing aids, and prosthetics
- Low school enrolment and high dropout rates among children with disabilities due to inaccessible facilities and untrained teachers
- High unemployment and extreme poverty among working-age persons with disabilities
- Pervasive stigma, discrimination, and social exclusion within families and communities
- Inaccessible public buildings, schools, health facilities, and sanitation infrastructure

These overlapping challenges create a deeply entrenched cycle of exclusion that systematically limits the opportunities, dignity, and potential of persons with disabilities in the target area.

2.2 Target Beneficiaries

The project is designed to reach the following primary and secondary beneficiary groups:

- Persons with physical, sensory, intellectual, and developmental disabilities — 400 direct beneficiaries
- Children with disabilities, with a focus on school-age girls and boys — 200 beneficiaries
- Youth and women with disabilities, prioritised for economic empowerment — 200 beneficiaries
- Caregivers, family members, and community leaders as secondary beneficiaries — 100 or more

2.3 Strategic Objectives

The overall objective is to improve the well-being, independence, and social inclusion of persons with disabilities through sustainable, community-driven interventions. Specific objectives are:

- Improve access to healthcare, physiotherapy, and rehabilitation services
- Promote and strengthen inclusive education for children with disabilities in target schools
- Develop livelihood and economic empowerment opportunities for youth and women with disabilities
- Improve the physical accessibility of public facilities, schools, and health infrastructure
- Reduce stigma and advance disability rights awareness at community and institutional levels

3. METHODOLOGY AND INTERVENTION APPROACH

3.1 Five-Pillar Integrated Framework

The IFI will be implemented through five mutually reinforcing intervention pillars, addressing root causes of disability exclusion while building sustainable community capacity:

#	Intervention Pillar	Key Activities
1	Health & Rehabilitation	Medical outreach, assistive device distribution, physiotherapy, referral support
2	Inclusive Education	Teacher training, learning materials, enrolment support for children with disabilities
3	Economic Empowerment	Vocational skills training, income-generating group formation, livelihood development
4	Social Inclusion & Advocacy	Disability rights campaigns, community sensitisation, disability champions network
5	Accessibility Support	Ramps, rails, and accessible sanitation in schools, health facilities, public buildings

3.2 Implementation Partnerships

BCF-SL will implement the project in close collaboration with the following key partners:

- Catholic Relief Services (CRS) — technical support and community health systems strengthening
- World Vision Sierra Leone — inclusive education programming and child protection oversight
- Ministry of Health and Sanitation — coordination of medical outreach and referral pathways
- Bo District Health Management Team — local health systems integration and facility-level support
- Organisations of Persons with Disabilities (OPDs) — rights advocacy, peer support, and beneficiary engagement
- Community and traditional leaders — social mobilisation and community acceptance

3.3 Sustainability Strategy

BCF-SL is committed to ensuring that the benefits of the IFI extend well beyond the project period through four interconnected sustainability mechanisms:

- Community Capacity Building: Teachers, health workers, and disability advocates will be trained to sustain inclusive practices independently after project closure.
- Income-Generating Groups: Small businesses and savings groups established during the project will continue supporting beneficiaries' economic independence beyond the funding period.
- Government System Integration: Project outcomes will be embedded into national and district health and disability policy frameworks in collaboration with relevant ministries.
- Partnership Continuity: Ongoing relationships with development partners will be leveraged to mobilise follow-on funding and technical support.

The project is designed to create a scalable and replicable disability inclusion model adaptable to other chiefdoms and districts across Sierra Leone.

4. ORGANISATIONAL EXPERTISE AND OPERATIONAL CAPACITY

4.1 About BCF-SL

Bandama Charity Foundation Sierra Leone (BCF-SL) is a registered community-based organisation committed to improving the lives of vulnerable and marginalised populations. BCF-SL's programme portfolio spans education, health, disability inclusion, climate change adaptation, agriculture, innovation, youth and women empowerment, social justice, and addiction rehabilitation.

4.2 Relevant Programme Experience

BCF-SL has a demonstrated track record of implementing community-based development programmes, including:

- Education support and school-community engagement programmes
- Community health awareness and outreach campaigns
- Disability advocacy, rights promotion, and social inclusion programming
- Livelihood development, vocational skills training, and income-generation initiatives
- Community mobilisation, youth and women empowerment programmes

4.3 Project Management Team

The IFI will be managed by the following experienced core team:

Name	Position	Key Responsibilities
Albert Joseph Bandama	CEO & Project Coordinator	Strategic leadership, donor relations, overall accountability
Emmanuel M. Koroma	Technical Advisor	Technical quality assurance, programme design, M&E oversight
Cyril Gembeh	Community Engagement Officer	Community mobilisation, stakeholder liaison, beneficiary engagement
Hindolo Tucker	Field Operations Officer	Day-to-day field implementation, data collection, reporting

4.4. CONCLUSION AND FUNDING REQUEST

The Inclusive Futures Initiative represents a targeted, integrated, and evidence-informed response to the critical needs of persons with disabilities in Kakua Chiefdom, Bo District. By combining healthcare, education, economic empowerment, social inclusion, and accessibility support within a single coordinated programme, BCF-SL is uniquely positioned to deliver measurable, lasting impact for the most marginalised members of the community.

BCF-SL respectfully requests funding of USD \$30,000 to implement the Inclusive Futures Initiative over 18 months. We welcome the opportunity to discuss this proposal further and are available to provide any additional information, documentation, or organisational credentials as required.