1. Objective and relevance (the world around us)

* What is the main purpose with the intervention, including challenges that need to be addressed?
  + If the intervention is an extension of a previous intervention, please describe: what results have been achieved so far? What are (still) the major challenges? To what extent does this intervention include new objectives, a new strategic approach or new target groups?

**240.000. 14,9 %.**

According to UNAIDS[[1]](#footnote-1) the former is the official number of active sex workers in Sierra Leone while the latter is the percentile of this group that use a condom. Out the 240.000 sex workers, around 80.000 are living in the capital of Freetown – where half are estimated to be aged below 21.

The main purpose of this intervention is to advocate for women’s rights and to protect the most marginalized and vulnerable female societal groups in Sierra Leone – sex workers. Challenges in Sierra Leone concerning women’s rights and the violence/abuse that entails the lack thereof is still a major challenge in society.

The objectives of this intervention reflects the road towards the main purpose (see more in section 3). We will work on protection from gender-based violence, spread information concerning gender equality and STI’s and foster female empowerment through training/education and strong partnerships for the most vulnerable part of the female population in Sierra Leone.

Women and young girls continue to experience gender-based violence, abuse and rape, even more so in the context of Covid19, which has paralyzed the country. Lockdowns has earlier resulted in both less opportunity for sex workers to maintain an income for basic survival while domestic gender-based violence has surged causing many women and young girls to experience severe hardships at the one place they are meant to feel safe – home. There is a dire need to address issues such as employment possibilities, training in life skills, protection from violence and abuse, cultural understanding/acceptance of purchasing sex and sex with minors.

This intervention draws on experiences and results from two other previous funded CISU projects (one from the Civil Society Fund and one from DERF). During the last Civil Society Fund intervention (no. 19-2466-MI-sep) good results have been achieved concerning e.g. dialogues with local law enforcement and local communities. These activities have resulted in an increase in terms of understanding living conditions of sex workers while also increasing knowledge on women’s rights and the legitimacy of the organisations (Danish and Sierra Leonean) that are working to support this endeavor. Stemming from the DERF funded intervention (no. 20-604-PC) activities such as establishment of safe houses, the distribution of food and water and outreach in local communities including local law enforcement has enabled Pink Power Organisation (hereafter Pink Power) to stand out as a credible and highly prolific grassroots organisation. Not just for those benefitting from activities but also for those learning/hearing about the activities – a spillover effect to more people than those involved directly increasing legitimacy and knowledge of Pink Power and Brighter Horizons Sierra Leone (hereafter BH SL). During the DERF intervention activities also included close cooperation with – and better yet, endorsement from – national branches of UNAIDS and UNWOMEN in Sierra Leone. Part of the DERF intervention had included an explicit focus on PSEAH (Preventing Sexual Exploitation, Abuse and Harassment). This has led to the development of a PSEAH policy that all partners (Danish and Sierra Leonean) intend to utilize and incorporate into our work – both within our own organisations as well as into the new partnerships we continuously establish and build upon.

This intervention contains new target groups and objectives but continues to focus on the same central target group of sex workers while maintaining objectives surrounding protection, women’s rights and the capacity building of strong mutually reinforcing partnerships within civil society in Sierra Leone.

* Describe the context of the intervention:
  + Describe the conditions that apply in the area where the intervention will take place, and which are expected to influence the intervention (e.g. social, economic or political conditions, or other projects or activities in the area that can supplement the intervention).

Sierra Leone continues to be one of the most impoverished and least developed countries in the world. The country currently ranks 181 out of 189[[2]](#footnote-2) with approximately 52% of the total population living below the international poverty line of 1.90 US Dollars a day[[3]](#footnote-3). Sierra Leone has experienced its share of hardships over the past 20 years including a devastating civil war, outbreak of the Ebola virus, mudslide in Freetown and as of 2020 Covid19. Joined together all aforementioned factors have had a crippling effect on e.g. economic and social development leaving a large part of the population in poverty with limited or no possibilities to change one’s fate. Corruption is prevalent in many levels of society, including state/official structures and institutions[[4]](#footnote-4).

Currently, Covid19 has a firm grip on the country’s ability to prosper and progress coupled with a patriarchal driven society that has very little opinion and/or value of women and their natural born universal rights. This intervention takes place in Freetown and therefore contains context descriptions primarily from the capital city. Lockdowns and restrictions in terms of e.g. active nightlife has been in place for several months, opening up and then closing down yet again following the number of positive test of the Corona virus. Many people in Freetown have experienced far less daily income especially from the informal and unskilled work sector (markets, production, sex workers etc.). Gender-based violence has surged during Covid19 given that women and young girls where confined to home compounds where many experience rape and violence – even girls as young as 7 years old. Schools have been closed earlier and livelihoods are generally threatened and affected by the current situation in the capital.

* + Describe whether the intervention takes place in a stable or fragile context. If the intervention takes place in a fragile context, you can find inspiration on CISUs website about [nexus](http://www.cisu.dk/nexus).

The context is fragile in Sierra Leone. The country experiences periodical political instability while security concerns remain at status quo. Social and economic fragility prevails affecting social cohesion, employment and limited access to human rights. This intervention will seek to strengthen several areas via planned activities addressing these issues and striving to reduce vulnerability while increasing resilience among the target groups identified for this intervention. The areas in which the country remains unstable have no direct effect on the implementation of this intervention, however it means that we have to be flexible and ready for ad hoc adjustments – which we have plenty of experience in (e.g. Ebola, Freetown Mudslide, Covid19). The strengthening of civil society also plays a role in the intervention where joint collaboration and networks has the potential for solid impact on the lives of our target groups and offers a way to consolidate efforts and foster local ownership and active involvement. Through joint efforts with likeminded NGO’s and other key actors the intervention will seek to protect the most vulnerable citizens and prevent a further escalation of the current situation in Freetown, Sierra Leone.

Describe that Covid19 has changed the local context.

* Describe how this intervention will strengthen civil society organising – including active citizenship, volunteering, and public engagement – that contribute to social justice (realisation of people’s rights, reducing inequality and fighting poverty, participation in decision-making processes, equal access to resources, and just institutions).

Covid19 has changed the local context – as described earlier. Those who were vulnerable prior to Covid19 are now extremely vulnerable which calls for tailor-made approaches and activities to reduce vulnerability and increase resilience. This intervention will draw on earlier experiences with law enforcement dialogues, collaboration with strong local partners, training in life skills and craftsmanship (educational tracks) and outreach activities to ensure e.g. public engagement and active citizenship. The local partners in Sierra Leone (BH SL and Pink Power) both have a large network of volunteers that are easily recruited for activities. Volunteers play a key role in realizing the objectives of both this and former interventions – and the more people joining together forming one voice, the more impact we have and the possibility of influencing decision-making processes increases. The collaboration with other institutions e.g. UNWOMEN and UNAIDS in Sierra Leone offers credibility and international endorsement to our activities while opening ‘doors’ to public authorities that might otherwise be shut. Hence, with the backing of such actors our outreach and impact (e.g. logos on printed material etc.) has enormous potential for change. Through our planned activities, we hope to alter the current living conditions for women and young girls, especially sex workers as we continue to fight for women’s rights and the right to not be abused, raped or discriminated in any other way merely based on social status and gender. The intervention at hand will work towards the fulfillment of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals – in particular eliminate poverty (Goal 1), enforce gender equality (Goal 5), reduce inequality (Goal 10), guarantee peace, justice and strong institutions (Goal 16) and build partnerships for the goals (Goal 17). The intervention will also strengthen the coordination and organisation of sex workers – across local communities/areas in Freetown. We will organize women in areas where sex workers are prevalent – two to three women per area – as points of contact to establish grounds for following up on the effect of campaigns in their respective areas. Through this and our intended outreach activities and seminar we plan to have daily close contact with the target group of sex workers and vulnerable women building on strong foundations of good dialogue with this societal group. During earlier interventions we have had success in informing them about e.g. Pink Power as an organisation where they can seek help if needed, their rights as women, STI’s and much more. Many of the women we have been in contact with are more aware now of their rights and possibilities to change their fortune – either individually or as a group (albeit not always homogenous). Due to awareness raising campaigns and training we have succeeded in bringing forward voices of those who are not always able to raise their voices – or know where to do it to foster change.

* What climate- and environmental conditions do the partnership and/or the intervention need to respond to? And how have the partners responded to it? This could be in relation to the conditions of the target groups, the number of flights or the activities of the intervention, and how these affect the environment or climate in the area.

The intervention need to take into consideration the local climate. The rainy season now last longer than earlier which also introduces the enhanced risk of flooding. The rainy season is usually over in September but right now is still ongoing as the calendar reads November. There are not that many people visiting our partners’ offices due to the rainy season, it is much more difficult. This fact makes it harder to conduct activities/seminars that require physical presence. To address this issue we plan to have radio spots and TV commercials to reach our target audience. During the dry season we can still conduct physical activities – and the schedule of activities will reflect these conditions and active choices. The Danish organisation Brighter Horizons Denmark (hereafter BH DK) will still need to travel to Sierra Leone by air albeit on less occasions than earlier interventions. It is a partnership is the strongest sense which in turn also require Danish presence on-ground during some activities and even though the local partners in Sierra Leone have become quite adept at running interventions there is still a need for close physical cooperation during the period of intervention.

The partnership/collaborators (our starting point)

* Describe the experiences, capacities and resources of participant partners (including the Danish organisation) as well as other actors (e.g. their experiences with the subject matter concerned, knowledge of the context in which the intervention will take place, networks and relationships).

BH DK is a Danish NGO established in 2017 – albeit several founding members of the board have been active in development in another Danish NGO (Football for A New Tomorrow) since 2012. BH DK took active part in the establishment of both local partner organisations – BH SL and Pink Power– and has been a close project partner to both ever since. BH DK has solid knowledge of the local context (socio-economic, political, geographical, etc.) and enjoys great trust in local communities. The Danish NGO has experience in running development and humanitarian project together with local partners, other NGO’s and local communities and authorities. The target groups which BH DK works with and for are vulnerable young girls and women, sex workers and disabled peoples.

For the past five years BH SL staff and volunteers (not the organisation, since it was founded later) have been working with and for sex workers and vulnerably young girls and women. In Freetown, BH SL have been running an ex-prostitution house where young female sex workers are offered a way out of prostitution – via e.g. training in crafts and life skills. Adding to this, BH SL is running a compound for disabled (often homeless) young men where they can feel safe and receive training in whatever craft they can manage. BH SL staff and volunteers have plenty of experience in participating in interventions primarily situated in Kroo Bay, Aberdeen, Lumley and Wilberforce (areas of Freetown). BH SL have been cooperating with Pink Power Organisation for the past two years and have assisted much in the capacity building of this grassroots organisation – together with BH DK.

Pink Power is a strong albeit new grassroots organisation with more than 800 members recruited during a previous CISU funded intervention. The organisation is run by former and active sex workers united to form one voice and fight for the protection and rights of sex workers as well as women’s rights in general. Their objective is to raise awareness about issues related to sex workers’ lives, end stigmatization and advocate for vulnerable girls and women. Pink Power enjoys massive local support and is known throughout Freetown thanks to e.g. successful outreach activities, information campaigns, large-scale events and the pink-colored Kehkeh’s that taxi around selected areas in Freetown, handing out both free condoms and info-materials. Pink Power has – in a very short timeframe – arisen to be a strong actor in Sierra Leonean civil society.

Other key actors of this intervention – primarily for the informational campaigns – are UNAIDS and UNWOMEN. These organisations have been present in Sierra Leone for many years and have a great network due to experience, capacity and resources. They are well-known and respected organisations that have already facilitated contacts to many potential new partners for Pink Power and BH SL. Adding to this, the UN branches have acted as links between Pink Power and BH SL towards e.g. the Ministry of Health, Ministry of Social Welfare and the Ministry of Gender and Children. Currently, we have made formal agreements of cooperation with both UN branches.

* Describe any previous acquaintance or cooperation between the partners, and how these experiences have fed into the development of the proposed intervention.

All stakeholders involved in this intervention have experiences of working together both with and for our target groups. BH DK, Pink Power and BH SL have been working closely together for the past couple of years. All three organisations have cooperated on several development projects including the previous CISU Civil Society Funded intervention and the DERF. Our joint results stemming from these interventions have influenced the drawing up of this intervention, with lessons learned – both positive and negative. We learn from our experiences and adapt towards our next planned intervention taking into consideration dialogues with local communities where we are present and our knowledge of the target groups for this intervention. The Danish organisation has conducted capacity building of both local partners over the years with e.g. theoretical approaches paired with hands-on experience from the streets of Freetown making our partner constellation a strong foundation for becoming agents of change – the organisational structures as well as the individuals they comprise of. Knowledge and skills have been mutually reinforcing across organisations striving to make the best of what we have and what we can do with our resources.

Pink Power stands out as something unique considering the composition of the organisation, purely grassroots driven by both former and presently active sex workers. Prior to our last funded CISU project (no. 19-2466-MI-sep), we conducted interviews with approximately 500 sex workers to gather data on conditions that affected their choice (not a choice per se) of becoming sex workers. These data still influence our strategy of defining interventions, in an attempt to address the most central features that have affected the lives of young sex workers – e.g. rape/abuse/violence within the family and little or no protection by law enforcement when working on the streets of Freetown (perpetrators are sometimes the local police officers). These data as well as previous experiences from working together has informed this intervention. Adding to this, we have had good experiences so far from involving the national branches of UNAIDS and UNWOMEN – the latter even finances 2 Kehkehs (local taxis) for Pink Power. Both have participated in activities and via our network and close ties with target groups, the UN branches have come a bit closer to their own target group while we (DK and SL NGO’s) have been able to utilize both logos as endorsement and networks of the UN branches. During the two previous CISU funded interventions (Civil Society Fund and DERF) we have strengthened our cooperation with UNAIDS and UNWOMEN. We have had meetings concerning our mutually beneficial objectives – while the managers/chief executive officers of both organisations have participated in our previous campaigns and contributed with presentations at our seminars, educating the local partners (Pink Power and BH SL), contributed with their network and psychical presence during outreach and nighttime campaigns. Both UN branches have been very curious and interested in our way of working with and for sex workers and vulnerable women/girls and have expressed interest in participating in future events and campaigns. Adding to this, one of the highlights in our current cooperation was the organizing and implementation of a major seminar in September 2020, where more than 20 different organisations took part. These were representatives from two Ministries (Ministry of Gender and Childrens Affairs & Ministry of Social Welfare) and the responsible campaign manager of the “Hands of our Girls” campaign initiated by the First Lady’s Office actively participated. We will continue to involve and develop upon the relationship with these two UN branches including the aforementioned Sierra Leonean Ministries.

* Describe the contributions, roles, and responsibilities of the partners and other actors.

For this intervention BH DK will be primarily responsible of the overall project and financial management. BH DK will assume a supervising and facilitating role to support the local partners in Sierra Leone – BH SL and Pink Power. During project implementation daily dialogues and sparring facilitate the smooth running of activities. BH DK will assist in creating materials (layout, graphics etc.) with inputs and approval from local partners. Pink Power will be the implementing partner of all activities with support and safeguarding measures from BH SL. Safeguarding measures are needed when working during nighttime (e.g. men from BH SL and women from Pink Power). BH SL will take charge of hosting/running steering group meetings.

Both local partners have solid experience in running interventions and especially Pink Power has a key role in the intervention due to the legitimacy and composition of the organisation – former and active sex workers. None of our local partners employ staff with higher academic degrees but have solid skills in terms of social work, advocacy, establishing local ownership with other key actors (e.g. local communities) and networking with NGO’s, international organisations and government officials. Our local partners are joined by the national branches of UNWOMEN and UNAIDS who contributes with official endorsement of materials and outreach activities including holding seminars for BH SL and Pink Power. The UN organisations also contribute with network and relations to public authorities and assist BH DK in the capacity building of BH SL and Pink Power. UNWOMEN will also partake in the activities regarding the training of female Kehkeh drivers. In unison, all organisations form a solid partnership that has great potential for positive impact on the lives and livelihoods of sex workers, female youth and women in general in Sierra Leone.

* Describe how the intervention will contribute to developing the relationship and collaboration between the partners.

This intervention will continue the organisational as well as individual development of BH DK, BH SL and Pink Power. The last two CISU funded projects (as mentioned earlier) has resulted in good experiences in terms of working closely together in times of relative stability and times of crisis (Covid19). Due to Covid19’s restrictions on travelling the DERF funded project was implemented directly by Pink Power with the assistance of BH SL – and BH DK from a distance. Pink Power rose to the occasion and have gained valuable skills through outreach activities, dialogues with police, radio campaigns and much more. Through this intervention both Pink Power and BH SL are able to grow further and establish themselves as credible and competent organisations working for the benefit of the most vulnerable social groups in Sierra Leone.

BH DK, BH SL and Pink Power’s relationship with UNWOMEN and UNAIDS will continue to prosper allowing for more and closer cooperation through and after this intervention. UNAIDS and UNWOMEN in Freetown have come closer to their target groups via earlier cooperation (DERF/Civil Society Fund) with BH DK, BH SL and Pink Power. BH SL and Pink Power have guided representatives from both UN organisations through the areas where sex workers reside in Freetown, giving them first hand sight and meetings with sex workers and vulnerable women, increasing both knowledge and presence of the UN in communities where sex workers live and work. UNAIDS have donated funds over the last couple of years to the National Aids Secretariat (NAS) for outreach activities but with limited or no impact in terms generating knowledge and presence. Through the partnership with BH DK, BH SL and Pink Power UNAIDS have seen great value and through their network we are able to strengthen our platform for advocacy and women’s rights. Positive experiences from former collaboration has resulted in UNWOMEN donating funds directly to Pink Power to train female Kehkeh drivers – sponsoring both training and the vehicles. The continuation of working together has many spillover effects with new ways of securing funds (sustainability/reduce dependency) for development being just one of them.

Target groups, objectives, and expected results (our intervention)

* Describe the composition of the target groups: specify approximate number of people in primary *(the persons who will participate in the activities of the intervention)* and secondary *(persons who will be affected by the activities of the intervention without having participated in them)* target groups disaggregated by e.g. gender, social groups or other relevant factors.

During the intervention we will be running campaigns targeting approximately 50 bars and nightclubs in the areas where most sex workers are active in Freetown. Most of the girls selling sexual services are between 13-25 years old. Through nighttime campaigns, radio and outreach activities we hope to reach about 30% of the girls and women (24.000), via e.g. handing out condoms and flyers or through direct contact with our staff or volunteers from Pink Power and BH SL. Adding to this we expect 1.000 sex workers to have participated in our workshops and seminars – and out of the 1.000 we expect to have more than 100 through our different educational programs e.g. craftsmanship and Kehkeh drivers. We expect to reach around 10.000 potential male sex customers – via both seminars and handouts from bars and nightclubs. The male sex customers are a gateway to reduce e.g. the spread of STI’s given that many offer more money to have unprotected sex – if we can break/change this pattern of behaviour; it is bound to have severe impact.

For this intervention, we have identified four primary target groups:

a) Sex workers and vulnerable women. Most of the women/girls of this target group have not finished the 7 years of school and 20% are estimated to illiterate, with many having no parents and thus no caregivers in their lives. Participants aged 13-25 years (female) – 1.000.

b) Local law enforcement (mainly male) – 200 police officers from our targeted areas in Freetown are expected to participate in seminars/workshops. We continue to build upon previous somewhat good experience from having dialogues and presentations for/with local police officers.

c) Bouncers and managers at nightclubs and bars (where sex workers operate) – 60-70 bars and nightclubs with 2 bouncers and 1 manager from each. Total of 210 participants, mainly male. A large number of sex workers find male sex customers at bars and nightclubs, hence it is a venue where both these target groups are present, prior to having (most often) unprotected sex. This makes bars and nightclubs an ideal target for e.g. distributing condoms and information concerning reproductive health, STD’s etc. Bouncers and managers are thus key to implement initiatives at these venues.

d) Male sex customers. Purchasing sex is not associated with shame and stigmatization in Sierra Leone while only a few sex customers think and know much about the lives of the sex workers, including very limited knowledge on STI’s and the consequences thereof. Even though ‘male sex customers’ might seem like a heterogeneous group it is comprised of many different societal layers and educational backgrounds. A shared feature though is the lack of respect for women subsequently enhanced by the patriarchal culture that dominates Sierra Leonean society. We expect around 300-350 male sex customers to participate in activities.

The primary target groups are comprised of both rights holders (primary target group a) and duty bearers (primary target groups b, c and d). We deem it necessary to address, involve and direct our activities towards the three latter primary target groups as they play a very important role in behavioral attitudes, gender issues, violence, security etc. in relation to the former primary target group.

The secondary target groups:

a) General public (reached through outreach activities and radio spots). Part of this intervention is to generate widespread knowledge and recognition of Pink Power and BH SL’s work and purpose. Earlier experiences with running e.g. radio spots have proven very successful hence we continue with this approach. Estimated reach - approx. 250.000 people.

* Describe how the target groups will participate in- and benefit from the intervention.

Active participation from target groups is an integral part of the design and designing of this intervention. Through the local Sierra Leonean partners (BH SL, Pink Power, UNAIDS and UNWOMEN) the intervention’s activities have been influenced by local ownership, knowledge of local context and most importantly, inputs from target groups either directly (e.g. Pink Power staff/sex workers) or indirectly through former evaluations and feedback from previous interventions. All target groups will benefit widely from the intervention – many from direct involvement and active participation in the activities. The activities individually target one or more audiences/target groups and focus on benefitting the participants as much as possible. Radio campaigns and door-to-door outreach activities target the general public albeit with a clear message/statement towards specific target groups (male sex customers, men who commit violent acts towards women and young girls etc.). The activities are designed and informed by several of the target groups’ need and (implicit challenges) which means that those participating will benefit directly as well as others for whom the activities also has significance, e.g. seminars for law enforcement (benefits both police officers as well as sex workers and other vulnerable women).

* Describe the objectives and expected results.

There are four objectives for this intervention:

*1. Secure protection against STI’s and gender based violence*

Expected results are: (i) increased knowledge and competencies (STI’s, FGM, condoms etc.) on reproductive health, (ii) reduce assault and abuse towards women and sex workers, especially from male sex customers, (iii) increased support and protection mitigation (instead of resistance) from bouncers and bartenders.

*2. Increase knowledge on women’s rights and create awareness on gender equality*

Expected results are: (i) increased ‘branding’ of Pink Power as an advocate for women’s rights, (ii) physical outreach activities (door-to-door campaigns, distribution of flyers and condoms), (iii) increase community cohesion, tolerance towards sex workers and Pink Power’s legitimacy as a champion for vulnerable young girls and women in Freetown.

*3. Increase female empowerment through life skills training, craftsmanship and safe house model*

Expected results are: (i) 36 women/girls (sex workers or vulnerable) have been trained in life skills at office, (ii) 15 women/girls have been educated as Kehkheh drivers, (iii) 24 women/girls have received education in craftsmanship (e.g. seamstress, hairdresser), (iv) safe house can be documented as a model example of how to change the livelihood of young vulnerable women from sex workers to independent and self-reliant young women.

*4. Strengthen networks and collaboration to maximise impact of intervention*

Expected results are: (i) implementation and orientation of PSEAH policies for partners (police, local authorities, other NGO’s in Freetown), (ii) strengthening of cooperation with UN organisations and other likeminded NGO’s in Freetown, (iii) increased possibilities for networking (including new networks) through seminars and large scale event (Sex Workers Day 2021).

* What is the strategy of the intervention? Describe the planned activities and how these will lead to the desired outputs and achievement of the objectives.

The strategy of the intervention is multifaceted and based on a simple notion that psychical encounters such as the planned outreach activities have an enormous potential for change and impact. We have had great success on earlier interventions regarding radio, TV and door-to-door campaigns. The strategy is to affect both male and female cultural behaviour and understandings on women, young girls and sex workers. This is done via a series of activities, seminars, events and informational campaigns targeting key actors (individuals and institutions/organisations) in a holistic manner ensuring that we reach men, families, local communities, public authorities, the private sector (where relevant, e.g. bars) and civil society stakeholders.

For objective one we plan the following activities:

a) *Training, awareness and cooperation initiatives for and with bar owners, bartenders and bouncers.* Output: Condoms and reproductive health materials are available at bars and offered by bartenders, while bouncers are influenced to increase protection of sex workers and women. 60-70 bars and nightclubs will participate, seminars and workshops held in 6-7 locations. Staff and volunteers from Pink Power and BH SL will visit all bars and nightclubs once a week at night-time for 6 weeks. UNAIDS will participate in seminars and carry out one presentation per seminar. Estimated timeframe – 15th of April to 30th of November 2021.

b) *Sensitivity and reproductive health seminars for male sex customers.* Output: male sex customers are less likely to assault, abuse or rape sex workers, reducing reports of violence from sex workers and making their trade safer. Male sex customers often pressure the young girls into sex without protection, making both parties exposed to STI’s, and especially exposes the girls to unwanted pregnancies (often related to little or no knowledge on how children are conceived). UNAIDS, UNWOMEN, Pink Power, BH SL, local sex workers and local police officers will carry out presentations/conduct 6 seminars. Estimated timeframe – 15th of April to 15th of November 2021 (1 seminar per month, excluding July and August due to rainy season).

For objective two we plan the following activities:

a) *Radio campaigns in four leading radio stations.* Output: Increased knowledge and awareness of Pink Power’s work, offering both support for vulnerable women/sex workers having been abused or raped, while also attempting a pre-emptive approach to warn off potential violent men. Campaign will also entail information about our educational program for girls and women. Estimated timeframe - one week every second month from April to December 2021.

b) *Physical outreach activities / door-to-door campaigns*. Output: Different degree of impact towards changing cultural perceptions on women/young girls and sex workers due to physical encounters and the possibility for dialogue and explanation/orientation. Gender equality, gender roles in Sierra Leone, women’s rights are among the central points for dialogues during these campaigns. General public will be reached albeit other target groups also live in the areas where the campaigns take place, e.g. male sex customers. Flyers and condoms will also be distributed during each of the five local area activities. The activities here are planned to take place one week per month, the week after running radio campaigns. Distribution of flyers, condoms and information materials. Estimated timeframe – April to December 2021.

For objective three we plan the following activities:

a) *Training in life skills at the office.* Output: The vulnerable women entering our safe house are trained in life skills, e.g. mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS)[[5]](#footnote-5) to deal with e.g. trauma, effects of violence, social norms, challenges in life etc. These skills increase resilience and reduce further negative interpersonal development (low self-esteem, self-harm etc.). Trainings occur once a week, two hours per session. Estimated timeframe – April to September 2021 (6 months).

b) *Economic empowerment of vulnerable women and sex workers*. Output: Training of female Kehkeh drivers and education as craftsman/professionals, e.g. seamstress and tailor. Through training with the possibility of earning an income the women become self-reliant, empowered and more resilient to the challenges that many women meet in Sierra Leonean society. Each woman trained as Kehkeh drivers will receive 2 months of training, 4 times a week until able to obtain drivers license. 5 girls are educated every second month, running for 6 months. Training classes in skill work is conducted via our office. 8 girls taking sewing and tailoring class, each course lasting two months, running for 6 months. Estimated timeframe – April to September 2021.

c) *Documentation of safe house programme – a model for duplication*. Output: The documentation of the safe house model (vulnerable women and sex workers, training in life skills and craftsmanship) can serve as a model example on changing lives for the better. It can be shared with other similar NGO’s as well as utilized in network fundraising – e.g. on similar terms as the secured funding for Pink Power Kehkeh’s via UNWOMEN. Estimated time-frame – April to September 2021.

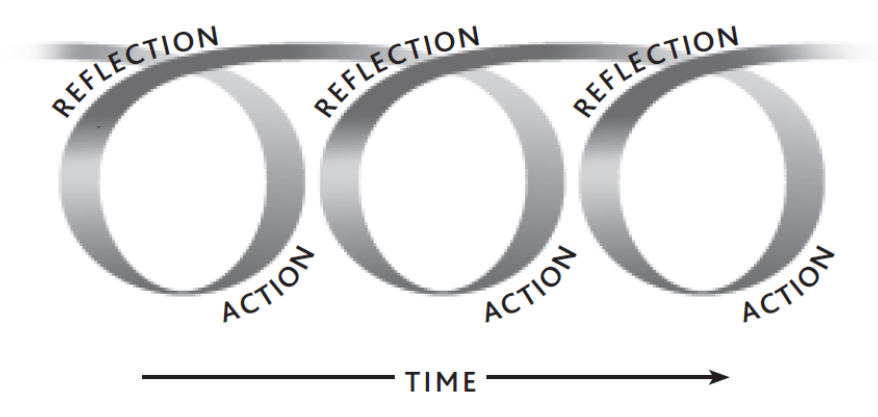
For objective four we plan the following activities:

a) *Implementation and orientation of PSEAH policies in Freetown.* Output: Through seminars and workshops, we plan to influence and ‘educate’ relevant key stakeholders in Freetown regarding the use of PSEAH policies. Key stakeholders that are invited to events are local law enforcement, public authorities (where relevant), and other NGO’s with similar target groups. Through our PSEAH policy we hope to inspire and influence other do the same when working with our target groups of vulnerable women and sex workers. Expected participants, 40 total (3 from each cooperating partner/key actor). Estimated timeframe – May 2021.

b) *Large scale event, 2nd of June 2021 – International Sex Workers Day*. Output: Massive media coverage, attention and participation (Covid19 restrictions/challenges to be addressed) towards this event – content of the event will be women’s rights, gender equality, protection of women and sex workers from abuse, rape and/or violence, children’s rights and how it is possible to contribute to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals. The event will be planned and implemented by all partners, BH DK, Pink Power, BH SL, UNAIDS and UNWOMEN. All relevant stakeholders working with e.g. health, justice, education, gender related issues etc. in Freetown will be invited – adding a strong dimension to local/national exposure of the intervention partners along with existing/new networking possibilities. Expected participants – around 300 people. Estimated timeframe – 2nd of July 2021.

* What are the plans for systematising experiences along the way and at the end of the intervention?

This intervention and activity planning on this project is seen as an ongoing process, which involves learning by reflecting, evaluating and acting.



All planning is based on and done under considerations of ensure the following i) thinking ahead and preparing for the future, ii) ensuring the right direction, iii) making the best use of available resources, iv) motivating staff, v) allocating resources and responsibilities, vi) ensuring smooth running of the project, vii) guiding implementation of the project, vii) clarifying goals and developing vision and iv) achieving the best results. In addition, a project steering group comprising of representatives from each of the direct partner organisation (BH DK, BH SL, and Pink Power) has been established to ensure that reflection, evaluation and action are applied in order to ensure continuous learning from activities implemented and used as lessons learned in the continued implementation. The project is fully aware of the fact that the context in Sierra Leone is ever changing, hence demanding both resilient and flexible planning and implementation in collaboration between the partner organisations and participant target groups. Overall BH DK will host and steer the project meetings taking place once a month from start until finish. Each partner will be required to present a short summary of intervention progress from the previous month. Challenges arising in the project will be addressed jointly during these meetings. Experiences will be summarized every 3 months and shared with board of trustees in each organisation.

Intervention-related information work in Denmark

*Due to the current situation with Covid19 in Denmark (as well as globally) we are not in position to suggest activities where we can guarantee an impact. Regular stories, videos and posts on social media will be part of this intervention, but not as specific information work in Denmark where we can budget with particular events. Hence, we will not implement intervention-related information in Denmark for the time being.*

1. Supplementary financing

*NOT APPLICABLE.*

1. <https://www.unaids.org/en/regionscountries/countries/sierraleone> [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. Human Development Index Report, 2019, p.302. <http://hdr.undp.org/sites/default/files/hdr2019.pdf> [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. Ibid, p.321, Table 6. [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
4. Transparency International, Corruption Perceptions Index 2017 - <https://www.transparency.org/news/feature/corruption_perceptions_index_2017> [↑](#footnote-ref-4)
5. <https://www.unicef.org/protection/mental-health-psychosocial-support-in-emergencies> [↑](#footnote-ref-5)