



# FACILITATING INTERNATIONAL TRADE THROUGH EFFICIENT PORTS SERVICE

DR. AB BANGURA, CPA  
(FORMER GENERAL MANAGER)  
SIERRA LEONE PORTS AUTHORITY



# SIERRA LEONE PORTS AUTHORITY

## SLPA

- ▶ SLPA - established by the 1964 Port Act - Authority to operate, manage and coordinate activities of all Ports in Sierra Leone.
- ▶ Transformation from Service Port to a Landlord Port. Outsourced core port activities to private ports operators.
- ▶ SLPA Collaborates with Stakeholders.

# SIERRA LEONE PORTS AUTHORITY

## ▶ SLPA Stakeholders

- ▶ **Freetown Terminal Limited**- Container terminal.
- ▶ **Nectar Break-bulk**- Non-containerised Cargo Terminal.
- ▶ **Customs/ NRA**- Government revenue collector.
- ▶ **African Link**- Scanning Facility
- ▶ **Clearing and Forwarding Agents**- Brokers
- ▶ **Dock Labour Companies**- Suppliers of labourers
- ▶ **Stevedoring Labour Companies**- Stevedoring

# SLPA Comparative Advantage

- ▶ Natural Harbour
- ▶ Equidistance b/w Europe & South America
- ▶ Shorter Distance to Landlocked Countries
- ▶ Good Road Access to Liberia and Guinea
- ▶ Improved Capacity:
  - ▶ New Berth – 14M Draft
  - ▶ Technical – Innovation/ Personnel etc.
  - ▶ New Equipment – Cranes; Tracking; Handling

# Bolloré Starts Berth Extension Construction



# Sierra Leone Seaport Container Terminal Extension In Progress



# Sierra Leone Seaport Container Terminal Extension In Progress





# Definition of International Trade

- ▶ Ensures Fast & Safe Trade across National Boundaries
- ▶ Objective:
  - ▶ Facilitates Access to Goods and Services across the Globe
  - ▶ At Reasonable Cost
  - ▶ Timeliness
  - ▶ Reduce Red Tape
  - ▶ Compliance with International & Local Regulations
    - ▶ IMO/SOLAS/ISPS etc.

# Trends In Global Trade



- ▶ Based on Comparative Advantage
- ▶ About 80% of Goods Transported by Sea
- ▶ Raw Material from Developing to Industrialized West
  - ▶ eg. Coffee/Cocoa etc – West Africa to Europe
- ▶ Recently, Raw Material from Developing to the East
  - ▶ eg. Minerals (Iron Ore/Timber from Africa to China.

# Factors Impacting Int'nal Trade

- ▶ Cost – is Impacted By:
  - ▶ Distance
    - ▶ Asia – US – Europe – Africa Corridor
- ▶ Transportation
  - ▶ Primarily by Sea
- ▶ Tariffs
  - ▶ Customs Clearance etc.
- ▶ Enabling Environment
  - ▶ Govt Policies – Deregulation/Privatization/Tax Policy

# Factors Impacting Int'nal Trade

## ▶ Efficient Port Operation

- ▶ Technical Capacity

- ▶ Infrastructure

  - ▶ Terminals etc.

- ▶ Equipment

  - ▶ Cranes; Reach Stackers; Forklifts etc.

- ▶ Processes

  - ▶ Automation

  - ▶ Paperless; Tracking etc.

# Impact of Ports Operation



- ▶ Ports: The link between Sea Transportation and the Consumer
- ▶ Trade Facilitation requires Investment in Ports Facilities:
  - ▶ Physical Infrastructure
  - ▶ Cargo Handling Capacity
  - ▶ Transportation Facilities
  - ▶ Inland Container Depots
  - ▶ Automation & Streamlining of Processes
  - ▶ Information Communication Technologies
  - ▶ Environmental Aspects

# Result of Investment - KPI



- ▶ Ship Turnaround Time
- ▶ Turnover Rate
- ▶ Berth Occupancy Rate
- ▶ Dwell Time
- ▶ Increase in Port Revenue
- ▶ Increase Volume of Cargo Traffic:
  - ▶ Bangladesh – 33% - Projected 300% increase in Container Traffic in 15 Years
  - ▶ Sierra Leone – 35% - Projected 150% Increase within 10 Years
  - ▶ Togo – 200% -

# Impact on International Trade



- ▶ Fast and Safe Transportation of Goods
  - ▶ Larger Vessels, Transshipment; Transit Modes
- ▶ Decrease in Unit Cost of Goods to Consumer
- ▶ Accelerate Growth Rate of Economy
- ▶ Increase Contribution to GDP
  - ▶ Bangladesh – 33% - Projected 300% increase within 15 Years
  - ▶ Sierra Leone – 35% - Projected 150% Increase within 10 Years

# CONCLUSION

- ▶ Direct Relationship Between Efficient Port Operation and the Growth of International Trade
- ▶ Effective Capacity Building Must Include:
  - ▶ Effective Planning – At National and Regional Level
  - ▶ Infrastructure
  - ▶ Technical
  - ▶ Processes
  - ▶ Innovation
  - ▶ Environmental
  - ▶ Regulatory Compliance





THANK

YOU

???