

## Progress Assessment Visit of the Project: "Providing Alternative to Cattle Settlement"

On Tuesday, 25th June 2024, representatives from Christian Aid Sierra Leone visited Kono as a follow-up to assess progress in the implementation of the project titled: "Providing Alternatives to Conflicts in Cattle Settlement Communities." This initiative, funded by Irish Aid Program Grant and facilitated by Christian Aid Sierra Leone, aims to promote peaceful co-existence between crop farmers and herders in the Kooma Section in Fiama Chiefdom, Kono district.

In attendance at the participatory assessment meeting were members of all the 18 villages in the Kooma Section, including the section chief, town chiefs, women leaders, crop and livestock farmers, teachers, health workers, religious leaders, and youth leaders.

Head of Monitoring and Evaluation at Christian Aid, Mr. Milton Vandj, highlighted Christian Aid's role as a donor organization in providing resources to local organizations for project implementation. The purpose of the visit, he said, was to evaluate NMJD's project implementation and gather firsthand feedback from project communities, whilst Chinsia Pasco George, the Irish Aid project Manager at Christian Aid, encouraged an open dialogue and reassured participants that Christian Aid's presence was meant to support and encourage continuous improvement rather than to police project implementers.

During the session, participants gave positive feedbacks to the visiting team on various aspects of the project, including Climate Change Initiatives, Cattle Settlement Practices, and the Safeguarding Policy. Additionally, the women beneficiaries involved in the Smart Climate Agriculture Project, also supported through the Irish Aid Program Grant, showed remarkable progress in their work.

The North-East Regional Programs Manager of NMJD, Mr. Joseph Baba Ansumana, expressed gratitude for the cooperation that they have received from the project communities and urged them to continue to be steadfast and resilient in pursuing their goals and aspirations. He thanked Irish Aid and Christian Aid for their continuing support to the project communities in Kono through NMJD.



Stakeholders Assessment Meeting



Field visit