

# Presentation – MRU Post-Ebola Recovery Strategy

25 May 2015 – Abidjan, Cote d'Ivoire

# Outline

- MRU Approach
  - MRU Ebola Strategy
  - Governance
  - Revenue
  - The MRU Basket Fund
- Next Steps for the MRU Strategy

# MRU Strategy and Country Plans

MRU Strategy - Initiatives that need to be implemented at the MRU level

MRU Joint Revenue Mobilisation Initiatives

MRU – Governance, Accountability & Security

*Guinea  
Country Strategy*

*Liberia  
Country Strategy*

*Sierra Leone  
Country Strategy*

# Regional Ebola Recovery Strategy

## Areas Identified:

1. Getting to and Maintaining Zero in the MRU
2. Health, nutrition, sanitation and hygiene
3. Education and sensitization
4. Gender, Youth and Social Protections
5. Agriculture, Fisheries, Food And Nutrition Security
6. Trade and private sector development
7. Resumptions of flights and de-stigmatization.
8. Public Infrastructure Programme
9. Governance and Security
10. Budget and Financing Issues
11. Implementation, Monitoring and Evaluation

# Health, Nutrition, Sanitation & Hygiene

- Establish sub-regional disease prevention, control and reference centres.
- Establish state of the art sub-regional reference laboratory.
- Increase sub-regional surveillance of diseases.
- Install thermal imaging facilities at border entries, air and seaports.
- Establish accelerated and intensive training programs.
- Establish a sub-regional forum for Ebola survivors for sharing of experience.
- Implement an MRU Nutrition Programme
- Comprehensive school feeding programmes
- Supplementary feeding to pregnant women,

# Gender, Youth and Social Protections

- Step up MRU programmes for the promotion of gender and women empowerment.
- Organize First Ladies' initiatives to facilitate gender and youth empowerment.
- Increase engagement with international communities for more support to women, children and other vulnerable groups.
- Establish financial stability trust fund to recapitalize and capitalize MRU women entrepreneurs.

# Education and Sensitization

- Facilitate de-stigmatisation campaigns across the MRU, Africa and beyond through development of counter-narratives on the image of MRU states.
- Review curricula to reflect public health and hygiene education.
- Facilitate school health promotion by providing health facilities and equipment.
- Facilitate school feeding program to induce learning for affected countries.

# Agriculture & Food Security

- Incentivize agriculture investment through lending and financing opportunities.
- Facilitate re-opening of borders for agricultural trade, and provision of basic services at border crossing points including health, water, sanitation and training of border personnel.
- Encourage food production by mandating Member States to allocate 50% purchase for school feeding programs to domestic products.



# Development

- Facilitate **restoration of livelihoods** and generation of jobs.
- Revive the **Small and Medium Enterprises** development, entrepreneurship development and financial intermediaries.
- Provide support for agriculture inputs to farmers.
- **Rebrand** affected member States to attract investors.
- Establish **private sector** mobilization group for converging interests and strong collaboration on immediate and long term recovery.
- Mitigate cost of doing business in post-Ebola economies .
- Step up support for the Growth Triangle Initiative.

# Tourism and De-stigmatization.

- Facilitate re-branding of MRU States to restore tourist activities.
- Facilitate resumption of airline operations.
- Explore the possibility of establishing a regional airline (Air Mano)
- Mount de-stigmatization campaigns

# Public Infrastructure Programme

## Roads, Energy, ICT & Water

- Facilitate the re-commencement of all trans/sub-regional infrastructural projects such as the West African Power Pool, MRU initiative roads, transport and transit points, and enhance rural electrification.
- Construct Mano, Kongo, Tiboto, Souapiti, Fomi Dams.
- Improve regional ICT interconnectivity and capacity.
- Provision of safe drinking water and sanitation facilities (WASH) at border districts – Guinea seven (7), Sierra Leone six (6) & Liberia seven (7).

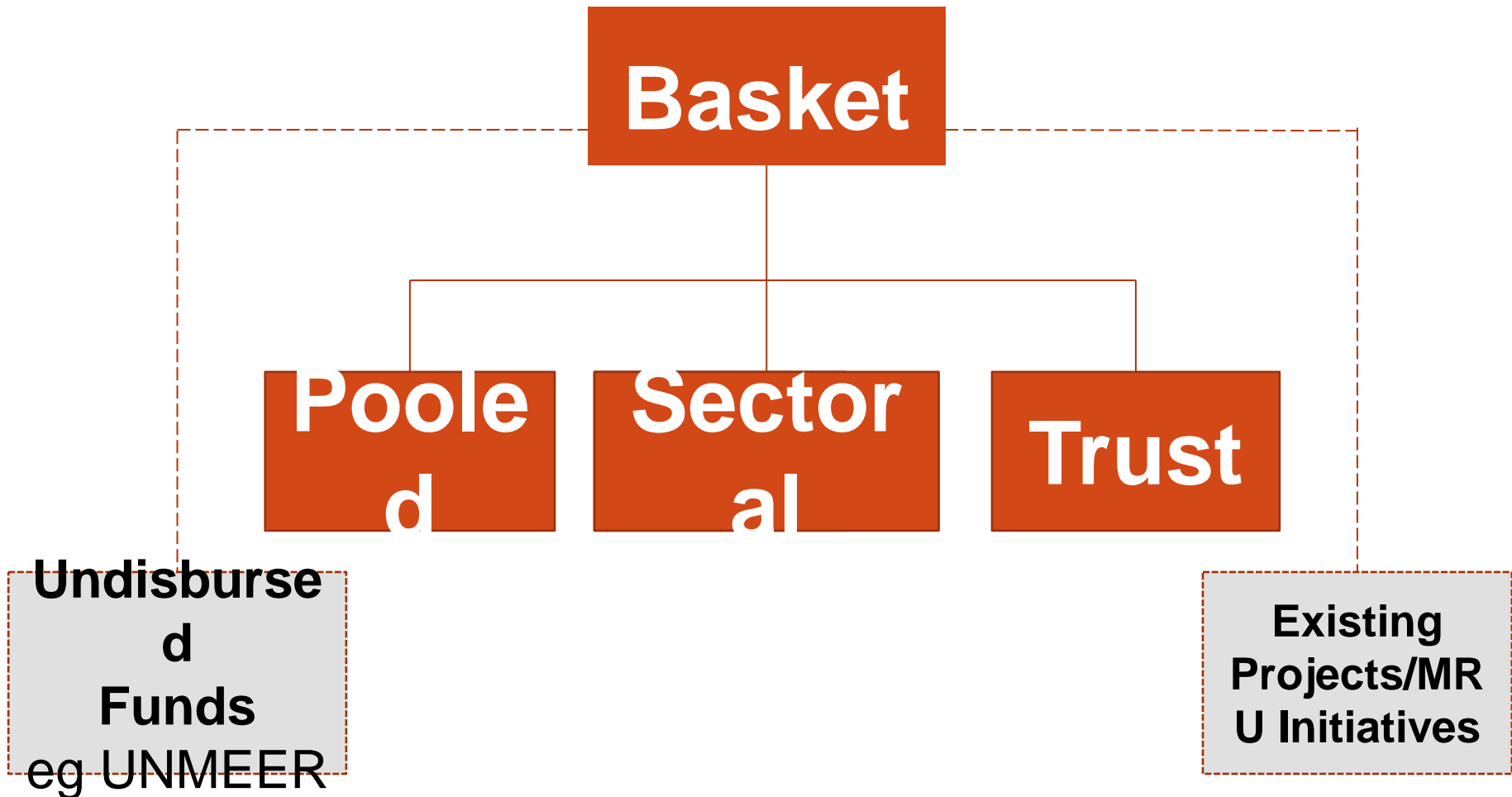
# Governance and Security

- Support the establishment of an Integrated Disaster Management System in each MRU country.
- Support the strengthening of good governance, Public Sector Reforms and transparency programmes.
- Decentralize governance and support peace building activities in member states.
- Ensure re-integration and re-conciliation.

# Budget and Financing Issues

- The MRU economies remain shattered.
- Government revenues have dropped.
- GDP growth has sharply declined.
- Hence, threat of debt overhang.
- In order to reduce pressure on fiscal space, the sub-regional body will seek debt waivers.

# Structure of the Basket Fund



# Suggestion for the Basket Fund

Step 1. Start with Pooled and Sectoral funds:

- Quicker to set up and are wholly in control of MRU states.
- Some donors will not fund through these vehicles so we will turn to new donors partners.

Step 2. Add a Trust Fund to the basket:

- To access donors who cannot put money into a Pooled or Sectoral funds.
- Start this process now and choose private donors and foundations who will agree favourable conditions.

# Where does the New Deal Fit In?

- **PSGs**
  - Integrated into the focus areas
- **FOCUS**
  - Guiding principles that will be used to implement the strategy
  - One Vision, One Plan and Compacts/MAFs are the most prominent
- **TRUST**
  - Will drive the implementation process
  - Critical to the financial arrangements
  - Highlighted by Heads of States



# Strategies

- Transform the MRU Secretariat
  - Taskforce setup to transform the MRU
  - Countries to second 2 officials each to the MRU
  - New office space identified
- Finalisation of costing
- Establishment of financing mechanism
- UN meeting in July– pledging conference for both MRU and Country Strategies