WATER & SANITATION SECTOR

2026

Mountain Communities Bulk Water Supply Project

27-YEAR DBOT BULK WATER PPP OPPORTUNITY | WESTERN AREA, SIERRA LEONE

A priority Guma Valley Water Company (GVWC) project within the Freetown Water Supply and Sanitation Masterplan. The PPP will develop two new reservoirs, a 41 ML/day water treatment plant and a bulk transmission system to provide reliable potable water to Freetown's mountain communities, benefiting up to 306,000 people.

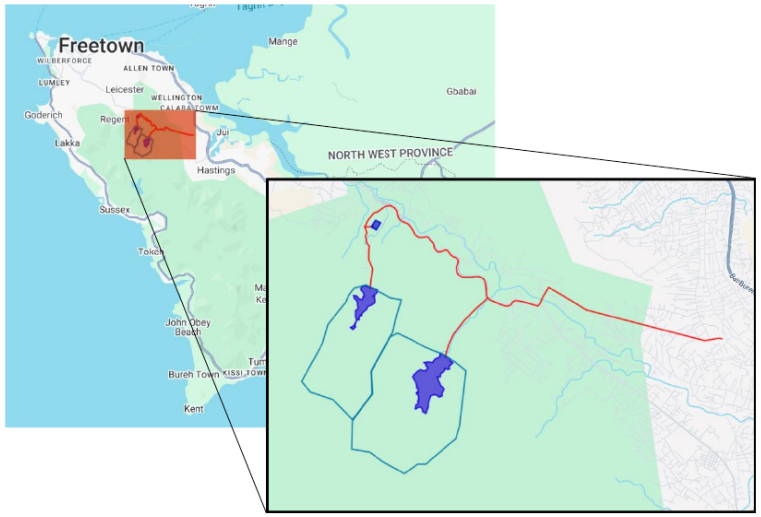


Figure 2: Project location and layout

INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITY

Transaction: competitive DBOT concession for bulk potable water services, backed by a long-term take-or-pay offtake arrangement with GVWC.

Private partner: design, finance, build, operate and transfer the dams, treatment plant and transmission system.

Public-side support: required approvals, land access, enabling distribution works and development of credible offtake / political-risk mitigation measures.

INVESTMENT SOUGHT

Private concessionaire / equity sponsor, senior lenders and credit-enhancement partners to progress the project through competitive procurement to financial close.

$95M	41 ML/day	306,000	3 Years	27 Years
Capital cost	Treatment capacity	People served, up to	Design & construction	Bulk-water offtake

USE OF INVESTMENT

Toothik dam	US$37m
Kongo 2 dam	US$32m
Water treatment plant	US$21m
Transmission pipeline	US$3.5m
Design & feasibility	US$1.5m

PARALLEL ENABLING INVESTMENT

US$14m distribution and storage upgrade is outside the PPP scope but is identified as critical to absorb and monetise the new bulk supply.

INDICATIVE FINANCING & BANKABILITY

US$38.3m
Equity / investor contribution

US$63.6m
Indicative debt financing

Up to 8.1%
Modelled project IRR*

22 years
Modelled payback period*

- Long-term take-or-pay offtake structure with GVWC, subject to final negotiated terms and approvals.
- High-elevation catchments enable gravity-fed supply and reduce pumping requirements.
- Proposed MoF-managed Bulk Water Account and credit support are intended to strengthen payment security.

PROJECT READINESS & PATH TO FINANCIAL CLOSE

Masterplan feasibility and conceptual design established; two earth/rockfill dams with clay cores, 41 ML/day WTP and transmission concept defined. Remaining work includes detailed LiDAR, geological/geotechnical and hydrological studies, full ESIA/ESMP/RAP, tender documentation, statutory approvals, competitive procurement, contract negotiation, financing agreements and satisfaction of conditions precedent.

Source: GVWC Mountain Communities Bulk Water Supply Project Information Memorandum, March 2025, and project brief dated 8 April 2025. *Financial outputs are indicative model results and depend on final offtake, financing, risk-mitigation and procurement terms. Distribution/storage financing is outside the core PPP scope.