



# WFP Sierra Leone Country Brief

April 2018

## Operational Context

Sierra Leone is a low-income and food-deficit country. Poverty levels are high, with 53 percent of the population living below the income poverty line (USD 1.90 per day). The country is recovering from the Ebola Virus Disease (EVD) outbreak which ended in 2016. The economy is supported primarily by subsistence agriculture, which employs over 60 percent of the population and accounts for almost half of GDP. According to the 2015 Population and Housing Census, 49 percent of the economically active population are women, and slightly more women (52 percent) than men are engaged in agriculture. Gender inequalities have decreased, but remain significant in some sectors; Sierra Leone ranks 151 out of 159 countries assessed on the Gender Inequality Index. About 51 percent of adult men and women are literate. Enrolment rate for primary education (year 1-6) stands at 72 percent, while completion with pass rate in all core subjects at the end of junior secondary school (year 7-9) was 47 percent in 2011. Attendance and enrolment of children beyond primary school remains low. WFP has been present in the country since 1968.



Population: **7 million**

2016 Human Development Index:  
**179 out of 188**

Income Level: **Lower middle**

Chronic malnutrition: **31% of children between 6-59 months**

**Main Photo**

Credit: Francis Boima  
Caption: A victim of the post-election violence receiving food in Daru

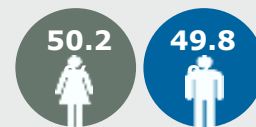
## In Numbers

**24.2 mt** of food assistance distributed

**US\$ 0** cash based transfers made

**US\$ 7,914,883** six months (May-Oct 2018)  
net funding requirements, representing 64% of total

**2,229 people assisted**  
in April 2018



## Operational Updates

- WFP conducted two review meetings with district nutritionists and District Health Management Team in Port Loko and Makeni in northern Sierra Leone. Among the issues discussed include, admission and exit criteria, anthropometric screening and availability of tools. The objective of the review was to identify bottlenecks affecting the implementation of treatment of moderate acute malnutrition (MAM), Nutrition Assessment Counselling and Support for TB clients on Directly Observed Treatment and for People Living with HIV on ART, and suggest corrective measures in addressing key issues affecting those activities.
- WFP received a donation of food commodities (SuperCereal, wheat-soya blend and veg oil) from Project Peanut butter (PPB) which was used in the Four Foods study in Sierra Leone undertaken by Tufts University and USAID, with links to Washington University St Louis. As the food study comes to an end, the donated food will be used in WFP's ongoing MAM treatment program.
- WFP in collaboration with Sierra Leone Red Cross Society assisted families affected by political violence in the northern district of Masingbi town. WFP provided 60 kg of rice per household as dry ration for one month and vegetable oil, while Sierra Leone Red Cross Society provided sanitary kits and clothing for families that repatriated to their places of origin in the eastern Kono district following post-election violence. Alongside the take-home package for returning families, WFP also provided wet ration for families that are staying.
- Work is ongoing across 57 food assistance for assets (FFA) creation schemes located across Bombali, Port Loko and Pujehun districts, where farmers are working to develop 385 ha of irrigated lowlands for year-round production of rice. FFA supported lowland development is assisting 9,525 beneficiaries.

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Further information: [www.wfp.org/countries/SierraLeone](http://www.wfp.org/countries/SierraLeone)

WFP Country Strategy		
Total Requirement (in USD)	Confirmed Contributions (in USD)	Six Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)
<b>Country Strategic Plan (2017-2021)</b>		
<b>\$19,629,984</b>	<b>\$8.8m</b>	<b>7,914,883</b>
<b>Strategic Result 1: Everyone has access to food</b>		
<b>Strategic Outcome 1</b> Crisis-affected population in targeted areas have met their basic food and nutrition needs during and in the aftermath of crises. <i>Focus area: Crisis Response</i>		
<b>\$875,012</b>	<b>\$555,014</b>	<b>352,808</b>
<b>Strategic Result 1: Everyone has access to food</b>		
<b>Strategic Outcome 2:</b> Chronically food-insecure populations in targeted areas in Sierra Leone have met their basic food and nutrition needs all-year round. <i>Focus area: Resilience Building</i>		
<b>\$1,960,898</b>	<b>\$1,584,163</b>	<b>790,641</b>
<b>Strategic Result 2: No one suffers from malnutrition</b>		
<b>Strategic Outcome 3: Children and pregnant and lactating women in districts with the highest rates of stunting and acute malnutrition as well as malnourished people living with HIV/TB nationwide will have improved nutritional status by 2020</b> <i>Focus area: Root causes</i>		
<b>\$10,384,704</b>	<b>\$1,730,325</b>	<b>4,187,152</b>
<b>Strategic Result 3: Smallholder productivity and incomes</b>		
<b>Strategic Outcome 4:</b> Food-insecure smallholders and communities in targeted areas have improved livelihoods and resilience throughout the year. <i>Focus area: Resilience Building</i>		
<b>\$4,825,949</b>	<b>\$892,101</b>	<b>1,945,841</b>
<b>Strategic Result 5: Countries strengthen capacities</b>		
<b>Strategic Outcome 5:</b> Capacities of national institutions are strengthened to address chronic food insecurity and improve rapid response capacities by 2019.		
<b>\$1,583,421</b>	<b>\$415,357</b>	<b>638,441</b>

- SO 5** 8 – Provide support to the Government to complete the institutional capacity assessment for national school feeding activities (SABER) and to integrate key findings into national HGSF policies and systems.
- 9 – Provide technical assistance to national disaster management authority and MAFFS in priority areas.

## Partnerships:

- WFP signed a field-level agreement with Building Resources Across Communities (BRAC) Sierra Leone to implement a FFA-supported project to multiply nutritionally rich orange fleshed sweet potato and yellow cassava (January–July 2018). The project will target 7,650 beneficiaries

## Challenges

- Livelihood projects had a late start due to elections and other programmatic factors. However, there are plans for early assessments and procurement of tools to ensure projects are ready for implementation.
- Screening and admission into the targeted supplementary feeding programme are still a challenge resulting in inclusion and exclusion errors. There are plans to conduct chiefdom level refresher training and on the job training for both monitors and Peripheral Health Unit staff.

## WFP Country Activities

- SO 1**
- 1 - Provide food assistance to vulnerable households affected by disasters or sudden onset emergencies.
  - 2 - Provide cash-based transfers to chronically food-insecure populations.
- SO 2**
- 3 - Deliver SBCC in combination with the provision of nutritious foods to targeted PLW and children age 6-23 months, and strengthen public-private partnerships in order to prevent stunting.
  - 4 - Provide MAM treatment, through targeted supplementary feeding and SBCC for children aged 6-59 months and for PLW.
  - 5 - Provide nutrition assessment counselling and support for malnourished people living with HIV/TB.
- SO 3**
- 6 - Provide food assistance for assets (in-kind or cash transfer) including land rehabilitation and smallholder farmers and productive farming cooperatives.
  - 7 - Provide training to farmer based organizations and strengthen market access for smallholder farmers.

## Donors

Japan, Republic of Sierra Leone, United Kingdom, European Commission, Multilateral Canada, United Arab Emirates, South Africa