



World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES
CHANGING LIVES

WFP Sierra Leone Country Brief September 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 150 out of 160 countries assessed on the Gender Inequality Index. Over 32 percent of adult men and women are literate. Enrolment rate for primary education (year 1-6) decreased by 12 percent from 2015 to 2017. WFP has been present in the country since 1968.



Population: 7.6 million

2017 Human Development Index: 184 out of 189

Income Level: Lower middle

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

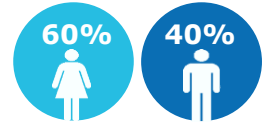
In Numbers

17 mt of food assistance distributed

\$ 0 cash-based transfers made

\$2.4 m six months (October 2018-March 2019) net funding requirements, representing 19% of total

1,351 people assisted in September 2018



Operational Updates

- In September, WFP provided in-kind food assistance to 1,351 people in Sierra Leone, including 783 TB patients who received nutritional support. In addition, 260 vulnerable people received food assistance for assets (FFA), while 308 pregnant and lactating women (PLWs) and children aged 6-59 months received targeted supplementary feeding support.
- From 27 August to 8 September, WFP and the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry conducted the Food Security Monitoring System (FSMS) data collection targeting about 3,000 households across all districts in Sierra Leone to update the food security data of the 2018 lean season which will feed into the regional *Cadre Harmonisé* food security analysis exercise.
- As integrated part of the Governments free quality education initiative, WFP resumed its support for the national school feeding programme in 11 vulnerable chiefdoms in Pujehun and Kambia districts, where food insecurity and nutrition indicators were amongst the highest in Sierra Leone according to the comprehensive Food Security and Vulnerability Analysis (CFSVA) 2015. The CFSVA indicated that micro nutrient deficiencies and poor dietary practises are prevalent in the two districts with under 11 percent of households reporting daily consumption of iron and under 15 percent of households reporting daily consumption of protein. WFP will target 35,000 primary schoolchildren in 142 schools from 15 September.
- On 26 September, WFP received an official request from the Government of Sierra Leone to procure and deliver 8,300 mt of food commodities for the national school feeding programme for some 420,000 children in food insecure areas of all districts of Sierra Leone.

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Main Photo: Credit: WFP/Francis Boima

Caption: A mother feeding her child with Nutributter from the WFP Stunting Pilot in Moyamba District

Country Strategic Plan (2018-2019)		
2018 Total Requirement (in USD)	Allocated Contributions (in USD)	Six Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)
13 m	10.5 m	2.4 m

Strategic Result 1: Everyone has access to food

Strategic Outcome 1: Crisis-affected population in targeted areas have met their basic food and nutrition needs during and in the aftermath of crises.
Focus area: Crisis Response

Activities:
 1 - Provide food assistance to vulnerable households affected by disasters or sudden onset emergencies.

Strategic Result 1: Everyone has access to food

Strategic Outcome 2: Chronically food-insecure populations in targeted areas in Sierra Leone have met their basic food and nutrition needs all-year round.
Focus area: Resilience Building

Activities:
 2 - Provide cash-based transfers to chronically food-insecure populations.

Strategic Result 2: No one suffers from malnutrition

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
Focus area: Root causes

Activities:
 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.

Strategic Result 3: Smallholder productivity and incomes

Strategic Outcome 4: Food-insecure smallholders and communities in targeted areas have improved livelihoods and resilience throughout the year.
Focus area: Resilience Building

Activities:
 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.

Strategic Result 5: Countries strengthen capacities

Strategic Outcome 5: Capacities of national institutions are strengthened to address chronic food insecurity and improve rapid response capacities by 2019.
Focus area: Resilience Building

Activities:
 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.

Monitoring

Monitoring coverage of implemented projects was 37 percent of planned sites.

Challenges

The country office is facing critical funding deficit which has affected all operational activities including nutrition and livelihood activities. This has resulted in shorter contract period with partners thus affecting food distributions to vulnerable populations. The most affected areas of intervention include WFP support in stunting prevention, targeted supplementary feeding for pregnant and lactating women and children aged 6-59 months and support to people living with HIV/AIDS and TB clients. Only critical activities will be prioritized while resource mobilization efforts are being stepped up.

Partnerships:

In Sierra Leone, WFP collaborates with 20 partners including INGOs, NGOs UN Agencies and Government line ministries.

WFP signed an agreement with the Ministry of Health and Sanitation (MOHS) through the Directorate of Food and Nutrition (DFN) for the implementation of nutrition activities in the districts of Kambia, Portloko, Kenema, Bonthe and Moyamba for a four-month period. The District Health Medical Teams will be responsible for the monitoring, reporting and oversight of food distribution at the Government health facilities whilst WFP will maintain role of oversight and close monitoring as well as the delivery of food commodities at final delivery points.

WFP signed a field level agreement with two community-based NGO's; Pure Heart and CAWeC for the implementation of the WFP new school feeding project in the districts of Kambia and Pujehun.

Donors

In alphabetic order

Canada, ECOWAS, Ireland, Japan, Private Sector, Republic of Sierra Leone, UAE, United Kingdom, UN Funds and Multilateral