



World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES  
CHANGING LIVES



## WFP Sierra Leone Country Brief November 2018

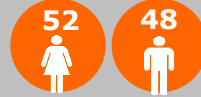
## In Numbers

111 mt of food assistance distributed

US\$ 21,300 cash-based transfers made

US\$3.5 m six months (December 2018-May 2019) net funding requirements, representing 27% of total

16,727 people assisted  
in NOVEMBER 2018



WFP  
SAYS  
NO to  
GENDER  
BASED  
VIOLENCE

## 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. Women's literacy, standing at 44 percent remains much below men's literacy. 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

## Operational Updates

- As integrated part of the Governments free quality school 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 latest CFSVA. In November, 146 mt of food commodities was successfully dispatched to targeted schools in the districts of Pujehun and Kambia targeting 28,909 children. Gradual increase is expected in the coming months to target the full 35,000 children. Plans are near completion for scale up of school feeding to Government assisted schools in Karene, Bonthe and Kailahun Districts (SRAC). Distributions are planned for January 2019.
- WFP, through the UN Renewed Efforts Against Child Hunger and undernutrition (REACH) activities, supported the Scaling up Nutrition (SUN) secretariat to conduct stakeholder mapping to identify all nutrition actors in Sierra Leone in November 2018. WFP initiated this cooperation through the implementation of a series of 'post-harvest management, value addition and quality handling training' workshops for WFP food for asset farmers and Japan International Corporation Agency (JICA) supported farmers. JICA highlighted the benefits of utilising the technical package (SRPP-TPR) practises for increased production and water management whilst WFP showcased effective post-harvest management handling.
- In November, 5,048 people living with HIV/AIDS (PLHIV/AIDS) received in-kind food assistance as part of food-by-prescription (FbP) nutritional support nationwide.
- As part of WFP's exit strategy for nutritional support to those affected by HIV/AIDS, cash-based transfers were provided to 200 vulnerable people in the Western Area Rural and Western Area Urban in Sierra Leone. The cash transfer is expected to enable households nutritional support as well as address relapses of people living with HIV (PLHIV) after exiting from programme. The support is used to meet basic needs and supporting their livelihoods thus preventing them from relapse. In November, WFP reached 196 beneficiaries as part of this programme.

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Main Photo: Credit: WFP/Evelyn Fey

Caption: A beneficiary of WFP school feeding programme in Peje Chiefdom, Pujehun District

**Country Strategic Plan (2018-2019)**

2018 Total Requirement (in USD)	Allocated Contributions (in USD)	Six Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)
<b>13 m</b>	<b>10 m</b>	<b>3.5 m</b>

**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 38 percent of planned sites (109 of 284 planned sites were monitored in November).

**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, and the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) signed a memorandum of cooperation for Sustainable Rice Production Project in Sierra Leone, which includes joint and complementary cooperation in planning, targeting, training, and monitoring of development/rehabilitation of in-land swamp valleys, rice production, and post-harvest value addition and market access

WFP and the Ministry of Health and Sanitation have signed a Memorandum of Understanding towards capacity strengthening in the implementation of nutrition interventions (stunting prevention, Moderate Actue Malnutrition (MAM) treatment and PLWHIV/AIDS)

**Donors****In alphabetic order**

[Canada](#), [ECOWAS](#), [Ireland](#), [Japan](#), [Private Sector](#), [Republic of Sierra Leone](#), [UAE](#), [United Kingdom](#), [UN Funds and Multilateral](#)