



World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES  
CHANGING LIVES



# WFP Sierra Leone Country Brief October 2024

## Operational Context

Poverty is widespread in Sierra Leone, with over half the population living below the poverty line of US\$2 per day. Agriculture, the main livelihood, is underdeveloped, leading to food insecurity. Limited infrastructure, high unemployment, and dependence on food imports exacerbate vulnerabilities, making the nation prone to food crises and malnutrition.

Data from the Government and WFP show an increase in food prices for specific staples when compared to the previous quarter. The prices of a kilogram of imported and local rice increased by 15 percent and 13 percent respectively when compared to the previous quarter (January-March 2024) and increased by 30 percent and 22 percent respectively year on year.

Results of the February bi-annual post-harvest Food Security Monitoring System (FSMS) assessment indicated that 82.3 percent of Sierra Leoneans were food insecure, a slight increase compared to the 80 percent figure from the same period in 2023.

WFP has been present in Sierra Leone since 1968.



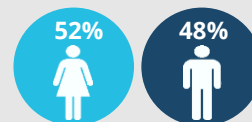
Population: **7.5 million.**

Human Development Index (2022):  
**Ranked 184<sup>th</sup> out of 193 countries**

Income Level: **Low**

Chronic malnutrition: **26.2 percent of children aged 6 to 59 months**

## In Numbers



**256,836** people assisted

**744 mt** of food assistance distributed

**US\$ 30,173** cash-based transfers made

**US\$ 2.3 million** six-month net funding requirements (November 2024 – April 2025)

## Operational Updates

- To prevent malnutrition and improve the nutritional status of children aged 6 to 23 months, WFP facilitated the distribution of 1,880 packets of micronutrient-fortified nyam-nyam pap (complementary food) by the Sahn Malen (Pujehun) and Rotfunk (Kambia) production sites to 470 children at risk of malnutrition at health facilities.
- A delegation from Germany, led by representatives from the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ), the German Corporation for International Cooperation (GIZ), and WFP Sierra Leone visited the Roman Catholic Primary school and the Sierra Leone Muslim Brotherhood school in Dibia Chiefdom, Karene district. These schools receive support through the Home-grown school feeding programme, a key initiative aimed at improving educational outcomes such as enrolment and attendance as well as linking smallholder farmers to stable markets. The visit concluded with a groundbreaking ceremony to mark the construction of 57 new kitchens and storage facilities, an important step towards enhancing school infrastructure.
- Some 2,000 WFP supported farmers harvested over 29 mt of Orange-Fleshed Sweet Potato in Bonthé and Karene districts, a nutritious option to rice that 26,000 school children will enjoy once a week this school term.
- WFP through its cooperating partners, including Pure Heart Foundation, and Community Action for the Welfare of Children (CAWeC), conducted community-level trainings for 997 participants (694 male, 303 female) from 338 schools. The trainings were aimed at strengthening the capacity of school authorities, cooks and smallholder farmers in the implementation, monitoring and reporting of home-grown school feeding.
- WFP joined the Ministry of Agriculture and Food Security and other food system partners to observe World Food Day in Kailahun district. The occasion also celebrated the first anniversary of the government's Feed Salone initiative. At WFP's booth, various products from supported farmers and groups were displayed promoting education, nutrition and climate smart agriculture.



**Contact info:** Francis Boima (francis.boima@wfp.org)  
**Country Director:** Yvonne Forsen  
Further information: [www.wfp.org/countries/sierra-leone](http://www.wfp.org/countries/sierra-leone)

**Photo Caption:** Rice harvesting by supported farmers in Sowa chiefdom, Pujehun district Copyright WFP/Francis Boima

# WFP Country Strategy

## Country Strategic Plan (2020 – 2024)

Total Requirements (US\$)	Total Received (US\$)
<b>118 million</b>	<b>89.1 million</b>
2024 Requirements (US\$)	Six-Month Net Funding Requirements (in US\$) (November 2024 – April 2025)
<b>23.1 million</b>	<b>2.3 million</b>

### Strategic Result 1: Everyone has access to food

**Strategic Outcome 1:** Crisis-affected populations can meet their basic food and nutrition needs during and in the aftermath of crises.

**Focus area:** *Crisis Response*

**Activities:** Provide food and nutrition assistance to crisis-affected households and support their recovery needs.

### Strategic Result 1: Everyone has access to food

**Strategic Outcome 2:** Primary school children in targeted areas have access to adequate and nutritious food throughout the year.

**Focus area:** *Resilience Building*

**Activities:**

- Provide nutritious school feeding to primary schoolchildren and support the implementation of an integrated school feeding programme.
- Provide assistance to the Government-led national school feeding programme.

### Strategic Result 2: No one suffers from malnutrition

**Strategic Outcome 3:** Nutritionally vulnerable populations in targeted districts – including children, pregnant and lactating women and girls and adolescents – have improved nutritional status in line with national targets by 2025.

**Focus area:** *Root Causes*

**Activities:** Provide comprehensive malnutrition prevention support, including complementary food and nutrition messaging, while strengthening the capacity of peripheral health units and staff on health and nutrition.

### Strategic Result 3: Smallholders have improved food security and nutrition

**Strategic Outcome 4:** Smallholder farmers and communities in targeted areas have resilient livelihoods that better meet their food security and nutrition needs by 2030.

**Focus area:** *Resilience Building*

**Activities:** Provide integrated resilience-building support to smallholder farmers, including farmers' organizations and women's groups.

### Strategic Result 5: Countries have strengthened capacity to implement the SDGs

**Strategic Outcome 5:** National and subnational institutions have strengthened capacities to manage food security and nutrition programmes by 2024.

**Focus area:** *Resilience Building*

**Activities:** Provide integrated resilience-building support to smallholder farmers, including farmers' organisations and women's groups.

## Partnership

- WFP signed a partnership agreement with World Vision International Sierra Leone (WVSL) for the installation of solar powered boreholes and two irrigation systems for vegetable cultivation in Koinadugu district. The system will use sprinklers to ensure ease of operation, offering a straightforward alternative to the more technically demanding drip system. WVSL and WFP had undertaken an initial joint assessment to determine the feasibility of the project.

## Research, Assessments and Monitoring

- In October, 155 sites were monitored across seven districts. School feeding programme accounted for 79 percent of all visits followed by 21 percent for resilience building activities.
- WFP facilitated data collection and analysis for the "Post-Disaster Flood Assessment" using the Multi Indicator Rapid Assessment tool to evaluate the immediate impacts of recent flooding. This assessment was conducted in partnership with the National Disaster Management Agency, Ministry of Agriculture and Food Security, FAO, UNICEF, and World Vision.

## Donors

Donors to WFP Sierra Leone Country Strategic Plan (CSP) 2020–2024 include China, the European Union, France, Germany, Iceland, Ireland, Japan, Republic of Korea, Russia, Sierra Leone, the United States of America, as well as multilateral contributors, private donors, and the United Nations Peacebuilding Fund.