

UNITED NATIONS

SIERRA LEONE

20 UN ANNUAL RESULTS REPORT Sierra Leone

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UN COUNTRY TEAM IN SIERRA LEONE

The United Nations Country Team (UNCT) is composed of the heads of all the United Nations (UN) agencies, funds and programmes active in Sierra Leone. The UNCT leads the implementation of the United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF) 2020-2024, with its steering committee co-chaired by the UN Resident Coordinator (RC) and the Minister of Planning and Economic Development.

21 UN Agencies, Funds, and Programmes signed the UNSDCF 2020-2024. The UNCT is composed of 17 resident agencies and 4 non-resident agencies. 4 International Financial Institutions (IFIs) also closely interact with the UNCT. The UN family works as one with the Government and development partners to deliver sustainable development interventions across People, Prosperity, Planet, Partnership, and Peace.

2023 AVAILABLE RESOURCES: \$103.8 MILLION











AVAILABLE RESOURCES \$103.8 MILLION



1. No Poverty 0.5% of total



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3. Good Health and Well-being 16.4% of total

5. Gender

6.8% of total

7. Affordable

4.2% of total

9. Industry,

Innovation and

Infrastructure

6.8% of total

and Clean

Energy

Equality



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Zero Hunger 21.2% of total

4. Quality Education 14.5% of total

6. Clean Water and Sanitation 5.3% of total

8. Decent Jobs and Economic Growth 3.4% of total

10. Reduced Inequalities 7.9% of total

12. Responsible

Consumption

0.2% of total

14. Life Below

0.6% of total

Water

and Production



11. Sustainable Cities and Communities 1.4% of total



13. Climate Action 1.3% of total



15. Life on Land 0.2% of total



16. Peace and Justice - Strong Institutions 4.9% of total



17. Partnerships for the Goals 4.4% of total

2023 UNSDCF FINANCIAL BY OUTCOME AREAS

OUTCOME1

SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE, FOOD **AND NUTRITION SECURITY, AND CLIMATE RESILIENCE**

By 2024, Sierra Leone benefits from a more productive, commercialized, and sustainable agriculture, improved food and nutrition security, and increased resilience to climate change and other shocks.

Key Achievements

Over 9,000 households benefited from support provided by the UN towards strengthening the value chains for cocoa, oil palm, rice and vegetables. The support has contributed to improved yields, especially for rice and vegetables.



Through the African Regional Migration Program, the capacity of 12 (F:3; M:9) government officials has been strengthened on migration, environment, climate change data management and integration of human mobility in the context of climate change, and environmental degradation.



Home-Grown School Feeding (HGSF) schools' coverage was scaled up from 55 to 97 schools and 16.978 to 27,981 beneficiaries (65 percent increase from 2022).







The impact of this agricultural initiative echoes beyond the fields. WFP, acting as a bridge between the farmers and the schools, delivered the freshly harvested OFSP to 73 schools, benefitting over 17,000 children. As a substitute to rice once a week, OFSP has not only diversified the school menu but has also contributed to a healthier, more balanced diet for the students.

In a bid to address the nutritional needs of children 5-23 months especially when it comes to the introduction of complementary feeding, WFP has pioneered a groundbreaking initiative: the establishment of small-scale food processing facilities managed by Mother Support Groups. The driving force behind this initiative is the recognition that traditional feeding practices needed a modern touch.



OUTCOME 2 TRANSFORMATIONAL GOVERNANCE

In collaboration with civil society partners, the project was implemented in 30 communities in five violent hot spot districts including Bombali. Furthermore, 120 young people were trained and enlisted as youth peace ambassadors to reach out to their peers and community stakeholders. Through the PBF, about 250,000 youths and adolescents and more than 185,000 community members received education on peace promotion and violent-free election.

"We were trained and recruited as peace ambassadors to promote peace and political tolerance among our peers and others to foster unity and love which we usually enjoyed in our community, and we have been doing this for the past five months reaching more than 500 young people." added Desmond.

By 2024, people in Sierra Leone benefit from more gender and youth responsive institutions that are innovative, accountable and transparent at all levels and can better advance respect for human rights and the rule of law, equity, peaceful coexistence, and protection of boys and girls (children, girls), women and men including those with disabilities.

Key Achievements

Women's representation in National Parliament and Local Councils increased to 30 percent and 34 percent respectively in the 2023 general elections. More women were appointed to cabinet positions, 31 percent. This exceeds the Government regulatory threshold set in the Gender Empowerment and Women Equality (GEWE) Act (2021).

Witnessed a drive to protect and reduce violence, intimidation, discrimination and harmful cultural practices against women and girls through advocacy and innovative approaches in the use of social media platforms during the elections.

Access to Justice was improved: tracked 1,963 cases uploaded into the Justice App; and provided affordable justice services for 1,178 indigents (F:948; M:230) through mediation, legal aid services and representation. 802 backlog cases were reviewed and cleared by the judiciary as well as 623 cases from the prison court both of which resulted in 1,779 (F:52; M:1,727) inmates who had suffered prolonged arbitrary detention. A total of 142 convictions were secured during the 'Judicial Week' demonstrating a commitment to eliminating all forms of GBV against women and girls.







OUTCOME3 ACCESS TO BASIC SERVICES

By 2024, the most vulnerable, particularly women, youth, adolescents and children (especially girls), and persons living with disabilities are empowered and benefit from increased social protection services, economic and social opportunities.

Key Achievements

Access to learning opportunities for children of victims of trafficking (65 adolescent girls), and sustainable reintegration through skills training (micro business management) of 788 returnees was improved with UN support.



7 oxygen plants and equipment were procured and installed, and accessories were completed, with testing, commissioning, and operationalization in 3 oxygen plants located in Makeni, Bo, and Kenema. 12 operators/technicians were capacitated to offer maintenance support to the oxygen



640,000 women are currently using a modern method of contraception in Sierra Leone, resulting in averting an estimated 240,000 unintended pregnancies, 87,000 unsafe abortion and 700 maternal deaths.



When 14-year-old Finah Koroma's parents passed away in 2019, she was unable to continue her education despite having passed her school entrance examinations. Even her uncle, who became her guardian, was unable to provide the financial support she needed to continue her basic school education. "My parents' passing had a significant impact on my school. I was unable to continue school, and this hugely impacted me as I believed that my dream of becoming a lawyer had been abandoned at that point," said Finah from Kondembaia in Koinadugu District.

To ensure that girls like Finah and others who are marginalized have access to education, the Government launched the National Policy on Radical Inclusion in Schools in 2021, aimed at eradicating barriers that exclude learners from school. In particular, the policy emphasizes reaching pregnant and parent learners, learners with a disability, learners living in extreme poverty, and learners in underserved communities.

In line with this policy, UNFPA is partnering with the Ministry of Basic and Senior Secondary Education, with support from Irish Aid, to facilitate the reintegration of girls into formal education. Through this initiative, more than 2,800 girls including Finah have been reintegrated into formal education since March 2022. Finah was able to return to school in 2023.

L I am grateful for the opportunity to go back to school and realize my dream of becoming a lawyer.



Fatmata got arrested along with other migrants during a police raid. "We were arrested and held in detention for some days, and later armed police escorted about 40 of us to somewhere in the desert and told us to find our way," she says. Fatmata, having realized the increasing difficulties in her journey, decided to return home.

With help from IOM, Fatmata was part of the 149 Sierra Leonean migrants who were assisted to voluntarily return home in August 2022. Upon returning home, Fatmata and other migrants received support from IOM on cash-for-work reintegration assistance from IOM Sierra Leone. Through this work, she managed to save some money to sponsor herself to study a short course in cosmetology. Having completed her course, Fatmata now earns money doing beauty make-up and hairdressing for clients.



OUTCOME4

PROTECTION AND EMPOWERMENT OF THE MOST VULNERABLE

By 2024, the most vulnerable, particularly women, youth, adolescents and children (especially girls), and persons living with disabilities are empowered and benefit from increased social protection services, economic and social opportunities.

Key Achievements

54 Communities were empowered to take ownership and action against GBV. Adoption and implementation of by-laws in those communities served to minimise incidences of GBV and harmful practices, empowering communities to take proactive measures towards protection and empowerment.

With support from the UN, Sierra Leone became the 1st country to launch the GBV Information Management Systems (GBVIMS+) in a development setting, to facilitate timely and survivor-

centred services, thus ensuring effective support for GBV survivors.

2,015 vulnerable girls were integrated back into formal education after having dropped out of school due to pregnancy, child marriage, disability, or extreme

The UN supported the implementation of the GEWE Act (2022) by strengthening the capacity of 28 government ministries and gender units, thus ensuring that gender issues are mainstreamed into public policies, strategies, and programs.

1,373 stranded Sierra Leoneans (F:522; and M:851) and 140 victims of human trafficking (F: 135; M: 5) were supported in the framework of voluntary return programme to return to Sierra Leone.















International Trade

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Centre

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environment programme











UN CONTRIBUTING PARTIES IN 2023

