



# WFP Sierra Leone Country Brief

## Highlights

- WFP provided food to 12 Ebola Virus Disease orphan care centers in the Western Area as an interim measure to get them integrated into foster families.
- The UN Network for Scaling up Nutrition (SUN) and Renewed Efforts Against Child Hunger and undernutrition (REACH) concluded a four day mission to Sierra Leone and met with nutrition stakeholders including donors, UN agencies, relevant Government Ministries.

### WFP Assistance

WFP is implementing activities to support the Government's National Ebola Recovery Strategy and reverse the negative impacts of the Ebola Virus Disease (EVD) outbreak on food security and nutrition among vulnerable populations.

Rebuilding food and nutrition security and strengthening disaster management capabilities in Sierra Leone	Total Requirements (in USD)	Total Received (in USD)	6-Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)*
PRRO 200938 (Jun 2016 - Dec 2017)	32.3 m	12 m (37%)	3.3 m (40%)

\*February - July 2017

### GENDER MARKER 2A PRRO 200938

The Protracted Relief and Recovery Operation (PRRO) will (i) strengthen the livelihoods of vulnerable communities through community asset creation and rehabilitation; (ii) improve the nutritional status of malnourished children aged 6-59 months, pregnant and nursing women and people living with HIV and TB; and (iii) develop national capabilities to prepare and respond to future emergencies.

The PRRO contributes to restoring and rebuilding livelihoods devastated by EVD, focusing on the most food insecure populations and Ebola survivors, while enhancing utilization of health and nutrition services weakened by the Ebola outbreak. The PRRO contributes to Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 2 Zero Hunger, as well as SDGs 1, 3, 8, 15 and 17.

Under the PRRO, WFP will continue to implement Purchase for Progress (P4P) to strengthen the capacity of smallholder farmers to access reliable markets. Participation in P4P enables smallholders to sell their surplus crops at competitive prices, thus bolstering their income and reducing their poverty. Food procured through P4P is used to support nutrition and asset creation activities under the PRRO.

Country Programme	Total Requirements (in USD)	Total Received (in USD)	6-Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)*
CP: 200336 (Jan 2013-Dec 2017)	56.7 m	38 m (67%)	-

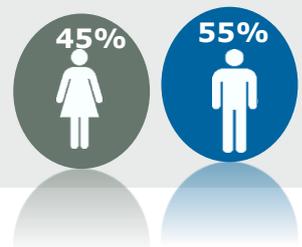
\*February - July 2017

Activities under the Country Programme (CP), which is currently being revised for extension, include school feeding support to primary education of boys and girls. WFP's CP, which contributes to Sustainable SDGs 2 and 17, was designed to empower vulnerable households and individuals with the highest rates of food insecurity and illiteracy in meeting their food and nutrition needs in a sustainable way. The CP is also designed to support the Government to realise its priorities set forth in the *Agenda for Prosperity*, particularly advancements in the education sector (SDG 4).

## In Numbers

3.5 m People Food insecure

9,819 People assisted  
December 2017



## Operational Updates

- WFP participated in a four day mission from the UN Network on Scaling up Nutrition (SUN) and Renewed Efforts Against Child Hunger and undernutrition (REACH) to Sierra Leone. The mission met with technical focal points and heads of UN agencies, relevant government ministries and donor agencies including Irish Aid, USAID, European Union and DFID. Outcomes of the mission include a draft work plan and budget for the UN Network as well as terms of reference for a National Facilitator.
- WFP provided food to 12 Ebola Virus Disease orphan care in interim centers in the Western Area as part of a three month food support to orphans in these centers. WFP plans to scale up support to extend to foster families nationwide.
- Food deliveries to health centers (or whichever place from which you distribute food) for tuberculosis clients on direct observatory treatment have commenced countrywide and distributions were expected to begin before the end of January.
- Road conditions have improved with the onset of the dry season, which has enabled WFP to deliver food to previously inaccessible chiefdoms in Bombali and Kambia districts.

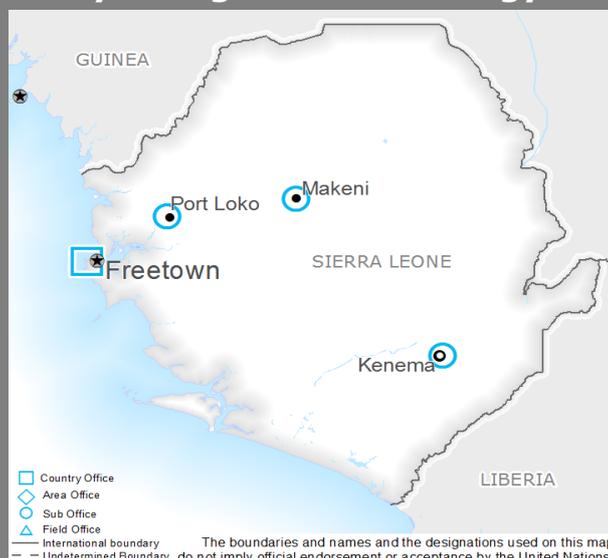
## Challenges

- There were delays in signing a new contract for the rapid response crane service after the previous one expired in December 2016 due to lack of response from potential service providers. However, a new contract with nine months duration has now been signed after the tender was re-advertised in the newspapers and on the radio.
- Contracts for commercial transporters were adjusted upwards to accommodate the recent 60 percent rise in the price of fuel. Warehouse labor service providers are similarly pushing for a contract rate adjustment based on the prevailing economic situation in the country. The rapid change in prices for goods and services are likely to have financial implications for WFP.

## Partnerships

- WFP conducted an evaluation for World Vision, which will act as an implementing partner to provide support to EVD orphans. WFP also evaluated the NGO Building Resources Across Communities, which is currently implementing the Japanese Bilateral project.
- WFP has initiated field level agreements with seven NGOs and six district agriculture offices across the country for the implementation of nutrition and livelihood activities for 2017.

## Country Background & Strategy



Since the end of a decade-long conflict in 2002, Sierra Leone has made significant progress towards peace-building, the resettlement of displaced populations, the reconstruction of war-affected communities and rehabilitation of productive household and community assets. Sierra Leone is now ranked (43 out of 163) most peaceful countries according to the 2016 Global Peace Index (GPI). However, the recent EVD outbreak, which erupted in Kailahun District in May 2014 has devastated the country's economy, and claimed the lives of nearly 4,000 people causing widespread human suffering. On 7 November 2015, the EVD outbreak was declared over after 42 days with no new cases. However, a new EVD case was confirmed on 15 January 2016.

Sierra Leone faces significant challenges related to food security and nutrition. The country has been ranked as having an "alarming" hunger level, scoring 112 out of 118 surveyed in the 2015 Global Hunger Index. According to the preliminary findings of the 2015 Comprehensive Food Security and Vulnerability Analysis, food insecurity stands at 49 percent, of which 12 percent are severely food insecure. Local production of rice, the main staple crop in Sierra Leone, remains inadequate to satisfy national requirements.

Over 70 percent of the population lives below the national poverty line of USD 2 per day. According to the 2013 Demographic and Health Survey, net primary school enrolment is between 62 and 69 percent and drop-out rates are high, especially among girls in their early teens. The 2014 Standardized Monitoring Assessment and Relief in Transition survey (SMART) shows that at the national level the global acute child malnutrition rate is 4.7 percent and 29.8 percent of children under five are chronically malnourished. Malnutrition rates vary greatly between districts. Malnourished children require special foods, including fortified blended food, which many households are unable to access. Therefore, food assistance remains crucial for the country's most vulnerable populations.

WFP has been present in Sierra Leone since 1968.

Population: **7 million**

2015 Human Development Index: **181 out of 188**

Income Level: **Lower middle**

Chronic malnutrition: **29.8% of children between 6-59**

## Donors

**Top five donors for CP 200336:** Japan, Republic of Sierra Leone, United Kingdom, European Commission, Multilateral.  
**Top donors for PRRO 200938:** Japan, Canada, Multilateral.

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