



WFP Sierra Leone Country Brief

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)	34 m	19.5 m (57%)	3.6 m (24%)

*July - December 2017

GENDER MARKER 2A PRRO 200938

The Protracted Relief and Recovery Operation (PRRO) aims to: (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 EVD outbreak. The PRRO contributes to Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 2 Zero Hunger, as well as SDGs 1, 3, 8, 5, 15 and 17.

Under the PRRO, WFP continues 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 vulnerability. Food procured through P4P is used to support nutrition and asset creation activities under the PRRO.

Highlights

- WFP collaborates with J-PAL and World Vision to commence stunting prevention and immunization promotion food distribution in Kori chiefdom, Moyamba district.
- WFP completes second quarter food support to undernourished tuberculosis (TB) clients and those on the intensive phase of directly observed treatment, short-course (DOTS) in Kambia, Koinadugu, Bombali and Tonkolili districts.

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	35.5 m (63%)	21 37%

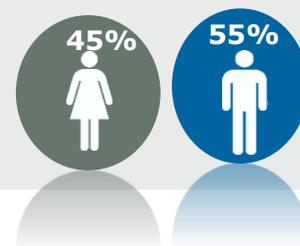
*July - December 2017

Activities under the Country Programme, which was extended to the end of 2017, include technical assistance to the Ministry of Education, Science and Technology (MEST) and support to the implementation of their revised national school meals programme. WFP Country Programme, which contributes to Sustainable Development Goals (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 County Programme also supports the Government to realize 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

24,549
People assisted
May 2017



Main Photo Credit: Photo WFP/Francis Boima
Caption: Stunting prevention and immunization promotion distribution in Moyamba district



June 2017

Operational Updates

- In collaboration with Abdul Latif Jameel Poverty Lab (J-PAL) and World Vision, WFP commenced food distributions for a joint stunting prevention and immunization promotion in Kori chiefdom, Moyamba district, which has the highest rates of stunting nationwide. The pilot programme will run through 2018 in Moyamba district, targeting 60,000 pregnant and nursing women and 40,000 children aged 6 to 23 months. Upon visits to the clinic, mothers and children will receive monthly rations of specialised nutritious food. Results from the pilot will inform a scale-up to other districts.
- WFP, the National Leprosy & Tuberculosis Control Programme (NLTCP) of the Ministry of Health and Sanitation supported the Food by Prescription programme for undernourished tuberculosis (TB) clients and those on the intensive phase of directly observed treatment, short-course (DOTS) in Kambia, Koinadugu, Bombali and Tonkolili districts. Adult beneficiaries received an individual monthly ration of Supercereal with sugar and fortified vegetable oil while children aged 6-59 months received Supercereal plus. The nutrition support aims to improve TB drug adherence and promote nutrition recovery of malnourished TB patients.

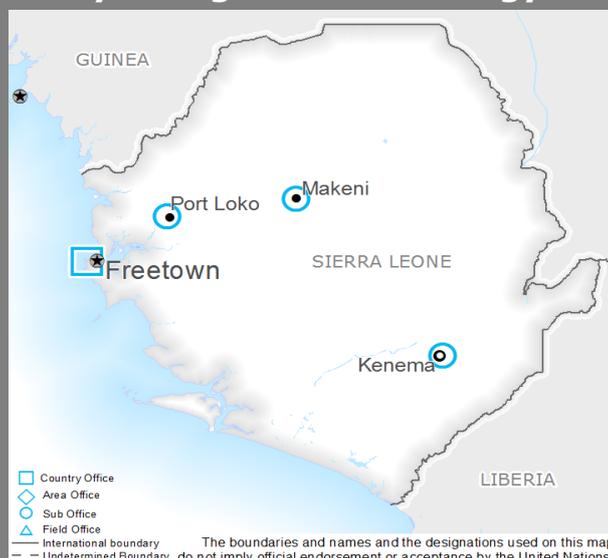
Challenges

- During the rainy season, WFP provides 'lean season' support when access and availability of food is limited. Eight community clusters in Sorogbema chiefdom (Pujehun District) could not be reached with food assistance due to poor roads network, exacerbated by heavy rains. Modalities are being put in place to overcome this challenge.
- Late submission of reports by implementing partners is negatively affecting the overall corporate reporting process. However, WFP will continue to work with partners to ensure quality and timely submission of reports.

Partnerships

- WFP partnered with District Health Management Team, World Health Organization, UNICEF and Largo community representatives to conduct active nutrition screening of 34 flood affected children aged 0 to 59 Months in Kenema. Seventeen of the children were identified as moderately malnourished whilst two were severe and fifteen normal. The malnourished were referred to nearby peripheral health units (PHU) for admission into existing supplementary feeding programs.
- A meeting was held with UNICEF to discuss possible joint food dispatches to the Periphery Health Units (PHUs) where WFP and UNICEF are both supporting.

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 and Assessment of Relief and Transition (SMART) survey 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**

2016 Human Development Index: **179 out of 185**

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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