



Country card

Sierra Leone

**(in Mano River
Program)**

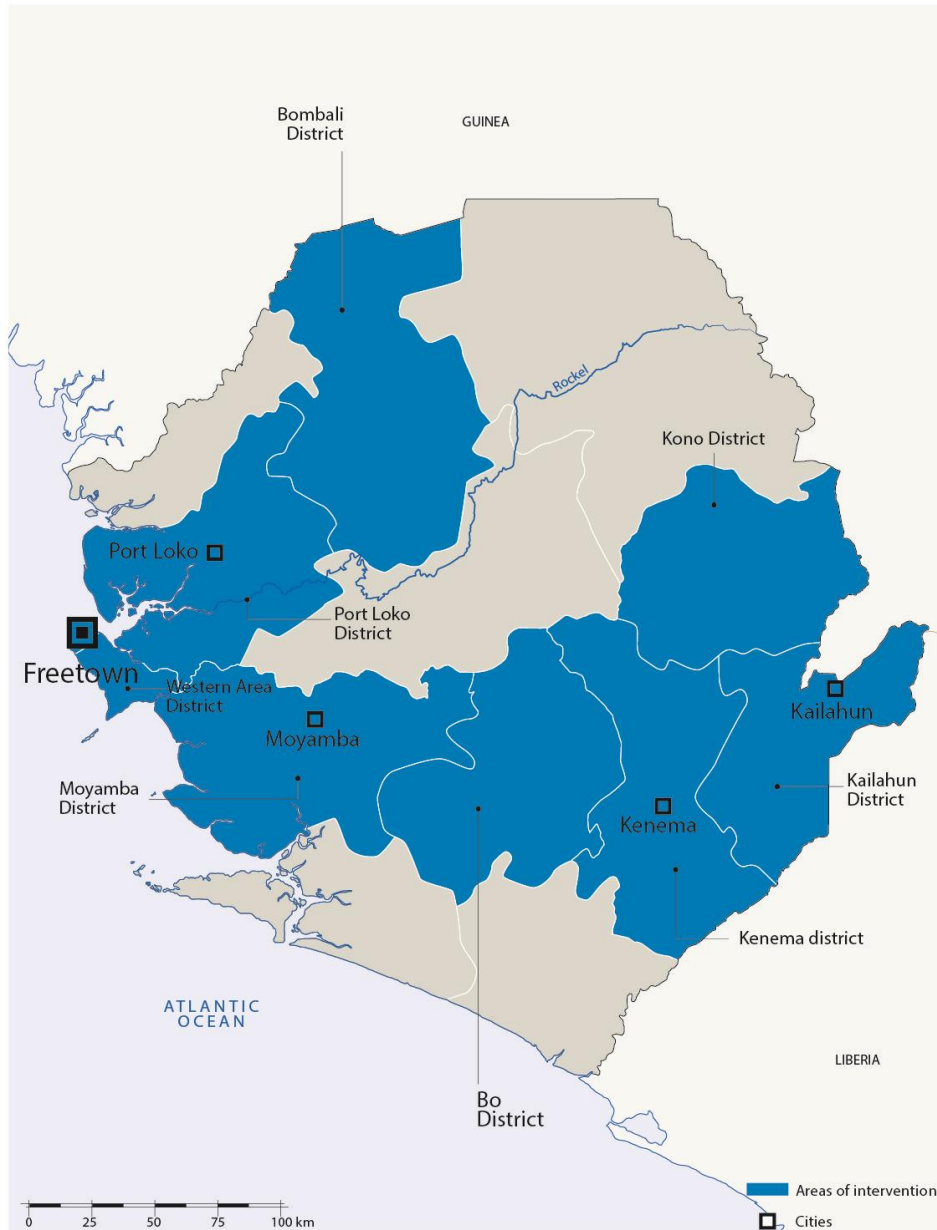




HI Team and intervention areas

The HI Sierra Leone program has 66 staff members.

Sierra Leone





General data of the country

a. Données générales

Indicator	Sierra Leone	Liberia	France
Population	7 813 215	4 937 374	66 8 34 405
HDI	0.438	0.465	0.920
IHDI	0.282	0.314	0.845
Maternal mortality	1 200	1 100	7
Gender Development Index	0.88	0.9	0.97
Population within UNHCR	592	9 122	126 720
INFORM index	5.2	5.1	2.2
Fragile State Index	84.4	90	38.3
GINI index	35.7	35.3	34.8
Net ODA	505,9	570,75	0

b. Humanitarian law instruments ratified by the country

Humanitarian law instruments	Status
Mine Ban Treaty	Ratified 25/04/2001
Convention on Cluster Munitions	Ratified 03/12/2008
UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities	Ratified 04/10/2010

c. Geopolitical analysis

1. Social/cultural/demographic elements

Sierra Leone is bordered by Guinea on the North, Liberia in the South-East and the Atlantic Ocean in the South-West. The country became independent on the April 27th, 1961, after having been a British colony since 1792. It was ravaged by a civil war that lasted from 1991 to 2002, and resulted in some 70,000 casualties and 2.6 million displaced people. Since 2002, the country has slowly rebuilt and restored order. About 16 ethnic groups inhabit in Sierra Leone. Although English is the official language spoken at schools and government administration, the Krio language is the most widely spoken language in the country.



2. Political context

In March-April 2018, Sierra Leone went through a new presidential election process. Both turns of the elections process unfolded in a tense context but without major violence. In 2022 local elections will be conducted at the same time as the start of the Presidential and Parliamentary campaigns for elections to happen in 2023.

3. Economic elements

The Gross Domestic Product (GDP) in Sierra Leone was 4.10 billion US dollars in 2019, according to official data from the World Bank and projections from Trading Economics. The GDP value of Sierra Leone represents less than 0.01 percent of the world economy¹. The macroeconomic situation remained challenging during the first half of 2019 (2019H1) as inflationary pressure and exchange rate depreciation increased. Inflation, which moderated from 18.2 to 16.8% in 2018, increased to 17.2% in 2019H1 reflecting a sharp depreciation of exchange rate and elevated non-food prices due mainly to the increase in fuel prices. The recent outbreak of COVID-19 has exacerbated state fragility by reducing economic activities and widening political divides due to rising unemployment, commodity prices and food insecurity.

Summary of HI presence in the country

In 1996, HI launched its first activities in the country with the opening of a rehabilitation center in Bo. Since then, HI has been instrumental in building the foundation of rehabilitation work, promoting the agenda of inclusive education, protection and mental health in Sierra Leone through various projects.

HI has also responded to the major health emergencies of the last decade including the Ebola outbreak from 2013 to 2015 and the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic.

Since its first mission in 1996, HI has reach out to tens of thousands of people including people with disabilities, girls, children and women who needed the support to alleviate the sufferings due to lack of access to services and social injustice.

¹ <https://tradingeconomics.com/sierra-leone/gdp>

Overview of ongoing projects

Sectors of services where HI conducts projects and focus on beneficiaries and operational partnerships

Main sectors of intervention	Objective of project in the sector	Main activities	Beneficiaries	Final beneficiaries	Partners	Location	Dates of beginning and end of the project and Donors funding it
Inclusive education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Marginalized girls and children with disabilities have significantly improved learning outcomes and are able to transition through key stages of education. • Marginalized girls and children with disabilities, and/or their families/caregivers are provided appropriate support to attend, learn and transition through primary to Junior Secondary School (JSS), and JSS to Post JSS options. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Formation of village savings and loans association • Livelihoods grants support through community groups. • Conduct study group sessions. • In-service Training for teachers • Pre-service training for student teachers • Community- 	3,635 including 1,600 children with disabilities		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PLAN International (consortium lead) • ActionAid • Open University • FAWE 	Districts: Kailahun, Kenema, Kono, Moyamba, Port Loko	01/04/2017-31/07/2021 Donor: DFID



		<p>based feedback mechanism through score-carding</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Provision of assistive devices to children with disabilities• Targeted awareness raising sessions through Community Based Rehabilitation Volunteers.• Adaptation of schools, making them accessible and child friendly.• Provision of resource kits for development of accessible teaching and					
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		<p>learning materials</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop Individual Education Plan for children with learning difficulties through Itinerant Teachers 					
<p>Mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS)</p>	<p>To develop and implement community based prevention and response strategies, leading to an improvement in the quality of life and wellbeing/positive mental health of people suffering from psychosocial distress and/or living with a mental health disorder in 4 countries in a crisis or post crisis situation.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support the MH working group • Advocacy • Support the formulation of new MH law and policy • Capacitate user's association • Make community visits and referral • Organize community support groups • Conduct 	<p>2,630 individuals and 1 psychiatric hospital</p>		<p>Ministry of Health and Sanitation (MoHS) Community Association for Psychosocial Services (CAPS) Service User's and Family Members Association (SUFMA)</p>	<p>Multi-country project. Location in Sierra Leone is Freetown</p>	<p>01/01/2020-31/12/2021 Donor: AFD</p>



		<p>awareness sessions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Train health care workers • Train and supervise community stakeholders • Support the refurbishment of the Sierra Leone Psychiatric and Teaching Hospital. 					
Protection	To strengthen gender equality and empowerment of women & girls including those with disabilities to prevent and respond to GBV issues in Sierra Leone.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Technical support • Capacity building • Create gender support group • Identify and train GBV focal points • Community sensitization • Advocacy 	3,300 men, boys women and girls including 900 people with Disabilities (PwDs). 15,000 school children.		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rainbo Initiative • Care International 	Bombali and Bo districts	01/09/2019-30/03/2022

Donors

AFD



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