



WFP Sierra Leone Country Brief

Highlights

- Food distributions to orphans in foster families nationwide is ongoing, targeting the most vulnerable orphans.
- The Nutrition unit held a stakeholders meeting on stunting prevention and incentives for immunization in Moyamba district which identified synergies and common platforms for joint programming.
- WFP completed food deliveries to health centres for tuberculosis clients on directly observed treatment, short course and distributions are expected to end in April.

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	17.2 m (51%)	4.6 m (32%)

*April - September 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.

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%)	-

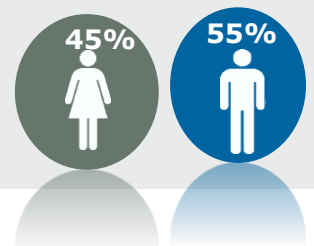
*April - September 2017

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's 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

6,000 People assisted
March 2017



Main Photo Credit: Photo WFP/Olivia Acland
Caption: Variety children and family services orphan centre Freetown.



March 2017

Operational Updates

- Food distributions to orphans in foster families nationwide is ongoing. The current food assistance is for three months (February to April 2017) and targets the most vulnerable orphans. A monthly household food ration is provided to cater to the food needs of foster families.
- The Nutrition unit held a meeting of stakeholders on stunting prevention and incentives for immunization in Moyamba district. The meeting brought together amongst others, the District Health Management Team representatives, World Health Organization, World Vision, Cause Canada, Action Against Hunger, Health Coalition Sierra Leone and the Moyamba district council. The meeting identified synergies and common platforms for joint implementation with other nutrition specific projects in the district.
- WFP completed food deliveries to health centres for tuberculosis (TB) clients on directly observed treatment, short course (DOTS) and distributions are expected to end in April. WFP supports the integration of nutritional rehabilitation as a standard component of TB comprehensive treatment packages which includes nutrition assessment and counselling for all clients and the provision of nutritious food for those clients who are malnourished based on anthropometric criteria.

Challenges

- Delays in finalizing partnership agreements for the livelihood activities due to prerequisite assessments and verifications have resulted in low tonnage distributed generally. Efforts are being made to finalize the process so that food assistance can start.
- The P4P unit has difficulty negotiating price with farmers who are requesting a higher price than the local market price. While seeking to avoid distorting the market, the unit is exploring options such as linking these farmers to other markets and buyers beyond WFP.

Partnerships

- WFP has developed implementation agreements for asset creation activities in collaboration with the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Food Security in Bombali, Kailahun, Kenema and Pujehun districts.
- WFP and UNICEF programme units met to identify areas for further collaboration with respect to social protection, nutrition and HIV, education and community engagement. A number of complementary actions have been identified and a joint WFP-UNICEF action plan will be elaborated.

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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