



2,830,000

CHF  
Funding requirement

200,000

People to be reached

4,000

Volunteers country-wide

14

Local branches for Sierra Leone Red Cross

56

Years of experience reaching the most vulnerable



## SIERRA LEONE IFRC Country Office

### COUNTRY PROGRAM OVERVIEW

Sierra Leone is one of the poorest countries in the world with most of the population multidimensionally poor and living on less than 2 US Dollars per day. The triple tragedy of the Sierra Leone civil war, the Ebola Virus Disease outbreak in 2015, and the Sierra Leone Mudslides in 2017 aggravated a country already suffering from high vulnerability and sustainability challenges. Sierra Leone remains a country with overstretched and inadequate health services and with basic gaps in the provision of public health. Life expectancy is low and rates of stunted growth for children is high.

Most households still do not have access to clean water and the dependency ratio is one of the highest in the world. Massive rural urban migration during the Sierra Leone civil war and the high unemployment rate constitute an ongoing challenge to livelihoods and many Sierra Leonians struggle to access food, water and health services. Additionally, Sierra Leone remains susceptible to mudslides within the wider Freetown area, and with some of the highest precipitation figures recorded in the world, to flooding and flood induced disasters

The SLRCS played a crucial role in the massive government and multiagency response to both the Ebola outbreak and the Sierra Leone Mudslides disaster. The impact of the Sierra Leone Red Cross,IFRC and RC/RC Movement partners was significant reaching over 400,000 people during Ebola with Health,Wash and Livelihood interventions and over 15,000 people during the Mudslide Operation with DRR,Shelter,Wash, Health and Livelihood initiatives. The Country Operational Plan (COP) 2019 builds on these initiatives and the networks created therein. The Sierra Leone Red Cross maintains a permanent co-operation framework with the Office of National Security.

In 2019 Key aspects of the Transformation Plan will include(a) Strengthening the Governance and Management of the Society(b) Strengthening Financial Development and HR Systems of the society (c) Completing Revision of the Constitution and updating various policies of the Society (d) Conducting an Organisational Capacity Assessment and Certification Process for the Society,OCAC (e) Strengthening Resource Mobilisation and Rebranding of the National Society. Implementation of the Transformation Plan will thus strongly be aligned to PAC Abidjan Commitment No 1 to strengthen capacities in Leadership as it will seek to build governance, management, accountability and sustainability. The plan will be aligned with the commitments expressed in the Africa Roadmap 2017-2020 to seek to create effective, accountable and resilient National Societies. Programmatic activities will align to SDG's 1, On Poverty, SDG 2, On Hunger, SDG 3, on Better Health, SDG 6 on Clean Water and Sanitation,SDG 11, On Sustainable Communities, SDG 13 on Climate Action and SDG 17 on Stronger Partnership.



## NEEDS ASSESSMENT



### Toward a Community Resilience

Sierra Leone is ranked 36th/191 most at risk country in the Index for Risk Management for 2018, under the risk assessment for humanitarian crises and disasters. This index can support decisions about prevention, preparedness and response. The country is exposed to a wide range of natural hazards such as Landslide, Flooding, Epidemics, Storm Surge, Sea Level Rise, Coastal Erosion, Tropical Storm, Thunder and Lightning. Through the 2019 Plan the IFRC seeks to support the SLRCS to provide support to communities in DRR, WASH, Health and livelihoods and basic needs. Focus will also be on strengthening the NS capacity so that it becomes the first responder to disasters

## STATISTICS

**77%**

Of the population is multidimensionally poor and living on less than 2 dollars per day.

**58%**

of the population have access to basic water

**15%**

of the population have access to basic sanitation

**38%**

of the children below 5 year exhibit stunted growth (Sierra Leone Demographic and Health Survey)

## AREA OF FOCUS

### DISASTER RISK REDUCTION

**CHF 50,000 required**

The SLRCS aim at reaching out to 15,000 people through DRR and climate adaptation initiatives. The disaster risk reduction will focus to build the organisational and technical capacities of SLRCS branches, volunteers, staffs as well as the most vulnerable communities in disaster preparedness with trainings to strengthen their skills and knowledge. It will also seek to build branches as centres of resilience and promotion of climate smart agriculture and initiatives. The SLRCS will also pay attention to Urban Disasters and shall work with the 1300 most at risk households in Freetown in working to reduce the risk of mudslides and flooding

Goals:

- Contingency planning and prepositioning of NFIs
- Enhancement of volunteers and staffs technical skills with trainings on conducting search and rescue, disaster assessment and response, early warning system formulation.
- At chiefdoms level, orientation on disaster risk management planning and awareness raising is enhanced to increase the awareness of leaders and community population.
- Training in climate smart agriculture

### LIVELIHOODS AND BASIC NEEDS

**CHF 230,000 required**

The programme in 2019 will seek to target the most vulnerable communities with special emphasis on women and youths by strengthening their livelihoods through vocational training and farming technical training. The proposed project will focus on Food security and livelihood interventions targeting households of vulnerable communities and individual farmers, youth and young mothers, and other vulnerable groups.

Goals:

- 2,030 that stabilize their net income through skills building, improved assets, micro-finance support and job creation.

### HEALTH

**CHF 630,000 required**

The SLRCS will implement two key health projects in 2019, the CP3 and CBHFA project. The Health Programme will develop more Community Based Health and First Aid (CBHFA) Plans that address identified Health risks and will also strengthen disease awareness within local communities. There will be a focus on promoting Community Partnerships towards preparedness for diseases.

Goals:

- Creating 30 Community Based CBHFA Plans
- Reaching 70,000 people with disease awareness activities
- Training 280 Volunteers on Sexual and Reproductive Health
- Creating a Contingency Plan to respond to epidemics and pandemics.

### WATER, SANITATION AND HYGIENE

**CHF 300,000 required**

The Wash Programme will seek to address structural weaknesses in the Wash sector that contribute to recurrent epidemics. Emphasis will be on institutionalizing safe hygiene practices like Handwashing and improving access to safe water sources. Protection and gender will be considered in the provision of WASH services.

Goals

- Providing 4,000 Households with safe water services
- Improving excreta disposal for 24,000 people
- Building 16 Institutional Latrines for Schools, Health Facilities and Community Centres
- Distributing 400 Community Clean up Kits.

## STRATEGY FOR IMPLEMENTATION

### STRENGTHEN NATIONAL SOCIETY CAPACITIES

**CHF 770,000 required**

The NS will be supported to establish a 1BC Database of potential partners in Sierra Leone and engagement will commence with such partners on the 1BC Platform. There will be a continuation of Livelihood programming with identified community groups as part of greater alignment with the Sierra Leone Government's Poverty Reduction Strategy. Such engagement in Livelihoods as well as in Health and Wash will have Community Engagement and Accountability (CEA) as its cornerstone. The NS will be supported to develop and roll out a Volunteer Management System including establishment of a sustainable insurance scheme for volunteers.

### ENSURE EFFECTIVE INTERNATIONAL DISASTER MANAGEMENT

**CHF 50,000 required**

The focus in 2019 will be on complying with IFRC Data Initiatives including reporting on the FDRS system and DMIS Platform. Sierra Leonian and West African capacity will be sought to be strengthened by having two(2) staff trained as RDRT's. BOCA which will be done in two(2) branches will be linked to Branch Emergency Response. Engagement with the Government on Climate Change Adaptation will continue. The Government will also be encouraged by SLRCS/IFRC to progress further on the issue of a National Disaster Regulatory Framework in line with Ecowas's current Strategic Focus on Disaster Regulatory Frameworks.

### INFLUENCE OTHERS AS LEADING STRATEGIC PARTNERS

In 2019 the Sierra Leone Red Cross will seek to strengthen its auxiliary role to the Government of Sierra Leone and engage in more effective advocacy sessions on disaster law and communication. In respect of the Government and National Policy the IFRC will support the New Sierra Leone National Water Resources Management Authority in drawing a Framework and Operations Manual for the authority by hiring a Consultant and establishing the output and Terms of Reference for the same.

### ENSURE A STRONG IFRC

**CHF 800,000 required**

IFRC will work with the National society in a co-ordinated and well structured manner in seeking to build a momentum for positive change in line with the Transformation Plan and to develop RC/RC presence, effectiveness and impact in Sierra Leone. There shall be (a) Weekly IFRC/NS/PNS Co-ordination meetings (b) Working with assigned NS counterpart on all initiatives (c) Briefings and updates with the NS Senior Management Team.

## CONTACTS

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