





Sierra Leone

Sierra Leone has made meaningful strides in strengthening its health system toward universal health coverage, even as major crises—including natural disasters, the COVID-19 pandemic and funding cuts—have tested that progress. Helen Keller Intl has worked alongside the government and other partners to expand access to healthcare and good nutrition, supporting communities with essential supplements, local food production, and dietary diversification.



 Number of staff: **43**
 People reached annually: **5 million**

 Office opened: **2004**
 Operating budget: **\$2.7 million**

Challenges



Sierra Leone is the 3rd most vulnerable country to the effects of climate-induced and man-made disasters—making it harder for farmers to grow enough food to offset rising hunger.



Maternal deaths account for 36% of deaths among women aged 15–49, mainly due to malnutrition, depleted immune systems, and cost of care.



Neglected tropical diseases like lymphatic filariasis were once endemic across all 16 districts of Sierra Leone, causing severe swelling and disabilities, socio-economic impacts, and stigma.

Where We Work



- Bo
- Bombali
- Bonthé
- Falaba
- Kailahun
- Kambia
- Karene
- Kenema
- Koinadugu
- Kono
- Moyamba
- Port Loko
- Pujehun
- Tonkolili
- Western Area Rural
- Western Area Urban

Our Solutions



Support families with climate-smart knowledge and tools to grow their own affordable, nutrient-rich foods and build financial security and promote dietary diversity among vulnerable households.



Ensure pregnant women and children receive multiple micronutrients and vitamin A supplementation to increase positive pregnancy outcome and increase child survival.



Partner with communities and governments to ensure people receive essential medication to prevent neglected diseases, including lymphatic filariasis, river blindness, schistosomiasis, and intestinal worms.



Our Impact

- ✓ Trained more than 2,600 farmers on climate-smart practices, growing varied crops, post-harvest management, and marketing to increase production and improve their earnings.
- ✓ Reached close to 263,000 pregnant women with Multiple micronutrient supplements and 500,000 children with Vitamin A supplementation through a routine health system.
- ✓ Treated close to 1.3 million people for at least one neglected tropical disease. 94% of Sierra Leoneans are no longer at risk of lymphatic filariasis.

Key partners: Foreign Commonwealth and Development Office of the United Kingdom, Irish Aid, Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints

About Helen Keller Intl

Guided by our founder's remarkable legacy, Helen Keller Intl works to improve the lives of people around the world by protecting vision, enhancing nutrition, and fighting disease. Working in 20 countries—across Africa, Asia, Europe, and the United States—we help families grow and eat nutritious food, stave off malnutrition, strengthen their immune systems, access life-saving medical treatments, avoid blindness, and protect their vision. Together, with a global community of supporters, we're building a world where every person can live a healthy life filled with potential.

Contact Information



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