



SIERRA LEONE

LIVING WATER INTERNATIONAL • PO BOX 35496 • HOUSTON, TX 77235-5496 • 877.594.4426 • WWW.WATER.CC



THE PROJECT

Project Location: Port Loko District, Kaffu Bullom Chiefdom, Sierra Leone

GPS Coordinates: Latitude:08 36.447 N Longitude:013 10.137 W

People Served: 300

Report Presented To: Allergan, an Adopt-A-Well partner of Millions from One

THE COUNTRY

According to the 2008 UNDP report, Sierra Leone is ranked 180th out of 182 countries in the United Nations Human Development Index. The brutal civil war that stretched from 1991 to 2002 cost tens of thousands of lives and destroyed much of the country's economy and social infrastructure. The displacement of millions coupled with the exodus of many trained and educated people has made recovery even more challenging. Even so, Sierra Leone has made strides in growth, democracy, and stability. In September 2007 Sierra Leone conducted credible national elections that peacefully ceded leadership to the opposition party.

Unfortunately, in spite of recent advances, Sierra Leone remains one of the poorest countries in the world, with nearly three out of four people living on less than \$2 a day. Unemployment rates continue to rise, primarily affecting youth and ex-combatants. Sierra Leone also has the world's highest maternal and infant mortality rates. The health system collapsed during the war and has not been able to recover enough to meet the health needs of a growing population.

Hazardous waste, marine dumping, and ship pollution from Sierra Leone's harbor plague the nation's water supply. Water catchments, rivers, ponds, and lakes are the main sources for water during the rainy season. Open hand dug wells replace these sources when the rains stop. Nearly half of the country lacks access to clean drinking water, while almost 90 percent do not have adequate sanitation services.

OUR WORK IN SIERRA LEONE

Living Water Sierra Leone launched in the wake of the nation's civil war, during which many community water sources (wells, pumps, etc.) were destroyed. Our in-country program directors work tirelessly for the people of Sierra Leone, collaborating with the government and other NGOs to stay on the cutting edge of best practices for the communities they serve. Working out of a central office in Freetown, the national team travels along the coast to rehabilitate wells and hand pumps in villages that desperately need clean water. Additionally, Living Water Sierra Leone has implemented a robust hygiene and sanitation program in the communities they serve—PHAST (Participatory Health and Sanitation Transformation)—that empowers teachers and students in local schools to teach others in the community about the sanitation and hygiene practices that will keep them healthy.

THE DATA

Population: 5.1 million

- 47% without access to an improved water source
- 89% without adequate sanitation services
- 70% living below the poverty line

Life expectancy: 48 years

Infant mortality rate:

155 per 1000 live births

GNI per capita: \$320 USD

Sources: World Bank, UNICEF, USAID, CIA World Factbook

Official statistics often understate the extent of water and sanitation problems, sometimes by a large margin. Insufficient resources for monitoring population and/or coverage as well as varying definitions of coverage and access contribute to statistical variability.



GENERAL INFORMATION

When the LWI Sierra Leone team arrived, the community was utilizing an open, contaminated well to meet all of their water needs and because of this, residents were suffering from dysentery, typhoid, malaria, diarrhea and severe dehydration. The community worked diligently together and assisted with the water project whenever possible. During the team's stay, community members also assisted by providing materials and security over the water project during the night. The majority of community members sustain a living by petty trading, working for the Sierra Leone government or working at the local airport. The nearest school is located less than one kilometer away from the community whose students, teachers and administrative personnel all have access to the new, safe water source. Before leaving the community, the LWI Sierra Leone team provided community member, Mabinty Sesay, with a LWI Sierra Leone contact number, in case their well were to fall into disrepair, become subject to vandalism or theft.

TESTIMONY

The LWI Sierra Leone team had an opportunity to meet with forty year old community member, Rugiatu Kamara, who stated, "The old way is not good to get water because it has a lot of germs. People climb up on it and it is uncovered. Dirt falls into the well which causes many sicknesses. With this new hand pump all will be well."

CHARACTERISTICS OF THE WELL

Project Details

Community name, Type of location	Rotifunk, #1 Amin Labour Lane, Off White Garage
Region/Province/District	Port Loko District, Kaffu Bullom Chiefdom
GPS Coordinates	Latitude:08 36.447 N Longitude:013 10.137 W
Altitude	31 m
Total depth	14.3 m
Static level	10.5 m
Casing material	Cement
Pump type	Afridev
Depth of cylinder	14.2 m
Well yield	18.9 liters per minute
No. of people served	300

HYGIENE TEACHING

During the hygiene education, there were thirty-five adults and fifteen children present. The people were so thankful for receiving the hygiene training. They never received any hygiene education before and everyone actively participated. During the hygiene education, the following principle issues were addressed; Disease transmission, Germs, Hand Washing- proper techniques and water saving methods, Healthy Unhealthy Communities, Diarrhea Doll- causes of diarrhea, Oral Rehydration Solution, Proper care of the pump, Keeping the water clean, Good-bad hygiene behaviors and Disease Transmission Stories. In addition to the lessons, the LWI Sierra Leone team discussed the importance to end open defecation in their community. Some have latrines but some do not, so the team addressed how to construct a native toilet and encouraged those who didn't have latrines to consider digging one. The team also had an opportunity to distribute thirty-three Oral Rehydration Solution spoons and show community families how to use the spoons.

PHOTOS



Previous water source utilized by the entire community.



Previous water source, open and contaminated well.



Community members extracting water from their previous water source.



Project in process.



Project in process.



Project in process.



Hygiene education presented to children and adults.



Close up of plaque.



Community members pumping clean, safe drinking water.



Community member interviewed by LWI Sierra Leone.



Photo of Water Committee/Caretaker/Local Contact



Photo of Water Committee/Caretaker/Local Contact



Hygiene education.



Hygiene education.



Hygiene education, presented to community families.



Distribution of Oral Rehydration Solution spoons.



Project in process.