

## CSLS – Agriculture

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<http://www.un.org/africarenewal/magazine/special-edition-agriculture-2014/sierra-leone-nursing-agriculture-back-health>



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<https://ejatlas.org/conflict/socfin-agricultural-company-sierra-leone-ltd-oil-palm-plantation-in-malen-chiefdom-pujeun-district-sierra-leone>

[http://operations.ifad.org/web/ifad/operations/country/home/tags/sierra\\_leone](http://operations.ifad.org/web/ifad/operations/country/home/tags/sierra_leone)

### Rural poverty in Sierra Leone

As a result of high population growth and a decade of civil war that ended in 2002, poverty remains widespread throughout the country. The severe economic decline that went hand in hand with civil war and social unrest destroyed social and physical infrastructure and impoverished the country.

Sierra Leone is the poorest country in the world, according to the UNDP Human Development Index (HDI). It ranked last out of 177 countries on the HDI in 2005. Health and nutrition indicators remain among the worst in the world. A

large proportion of youth, who include many former combatants, are unemployed or underemployed. This situation presents a threat to sustainable peace and stability.

With the assistance of international donors, the country has successfully tackled reconstruction and has embarked on a process of democratization and stabilization. Sierra Leone is currently making progress towards securing macroeconomic stability.

### **Who are Sierra Leone's poor rural people and where are they?**

The country's poorest people are landless people and small-scale farmers, particularly women who head rural households. Among these groups, the most disadvantaged are people who were refugees or internally displaced during the war, together with young people, especially former combatants, sexually abused young women and single mothers.

Poverty is heavily concentrated in rural areas and in urban areas outside Freetown, the capital. About 75 per cent of the entire population was living below the poverty line in 2007, and more than half of them live on less than a dollar a day. The proportion of poor people living in rural areas is about 80 per cent. The poorest areas are in the Northern and Southern provinces and in the eastern border provinces, which were particularly hard-hit by the war.

### **Why are they poor?**

The social and economic effects of a decade of civil war were devastating for the country and for poor people in particular. In the aftermath of the war poverty has become pervasive and intensified. Agricultural output has continued to decline, with drastic effects on food prices and rural incomes. The war disrupted education in many areas. During the conflict, the dislocation of large segments of the population, the separation of families and frequent violence against women contributed to the spread of HIV/AIDS.

In almost all aspects of human resources development, the country's poor rural people are disadvantaged. Their levels of health, nutrition, education and food security are inadequate. As a result, productivity is generally low. Low productivity also stems from limited access to land and to technologies, markets and financial services.

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/business-36955088>

Contains a video – On reducing hunger in Sierra Leone

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[https://www.oaklandinstitute.org/sites/oaklandinstitute.org/files/Reference%20Sierra%20Leone%20SL\\_agrilandleasing\\_09March.pdf](https://www.oaklandinstitute.org/sites/oaklandinstitute.org/files/Reference%20Sierra%20Leone%20SL_agrilandleasing_09March.pdf)

<http://www.countrystat.org/home.aspx?c=SLE&ne=16>

CountrySTAT is a statistical framework to improve governance of national statistics system for food and agriculture. It disseminates, at a unique access point, food and agricultural statistics at national and international level. It provides one-stop centre for official statistics on agriculture, food and nutrition. The inception training workshop of the Republic of Sierra Leone was held at the Planning, Evaluation, Monitoring and Statistics Division (PEMSD) of the Ministry of Agriculture Forestry and Food Security (MAFFS) from 5th August 2013 to 15th August 2013. The training was facilitated by FAO International consultants. The ten days training workshop was attended by senior staff from the Planning, Evaluation, Monitoring and Statistics Division and Statistics Sierra Leone. The program was sponsored by the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) under the Technical Cooperation Programme (TCP) for the Planning, Evaluation, Monitoring and Statistics Division (PEMSD). Technical backstopping and guidance was provided by the facilitators

throughout the training period. In addition to the training, high level sensitization meetings were held with the Minister of Agriculture Forestry and Food Security, Deputy Director General Ministry of Agriculture Forestry and Food Security, PEMSD directorate and senior technical staff of Statistics Sierra Leone on the purpose and the structure for a functional Country STAT system. As a requirement the team leader from FAO Rome requested the honourable Minister of Agriculture Forestry and Food Security to nominate the national Country STAT coordinator and the other members of the secretariat comprising of statistician, communication officer, IT focal person and data processing officer. The country team was also requested to put in place a Technical Working Group (TWG) comprising of key data providers from line ministries, NGO's, agencies, private sector and partners for data quality control. In his response the honourable Minister of Agriculture Forestry and Food Security, Dr. Joseph Sam Sesay welcomes the CountrySTAT ideology and assured the commitment of government represented by his ministry. He further stated that the establishment of the CountrySTAT was timely and that his team in the ministry in collaboration with relevant partners will work hard in order to officially launch the system within a record time.

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<https://www.wfp.org/countries/sierra-leone/overview>

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[http://www.afdb.org/fileadmin/uploads/afdb/Documents/Project-and-Operations/Sierra\\_Leone\\_-\\_Agricultural\\_Sector\\_Rehabilitation\\_Project\\_ASREP\\_-\\_Appraisal\\_Report.pdf](http://www.afdb.org/fileadmin/uploads/afdb/Documents/Project-and-Operations/Sierra_Leone_-_Agricultural_Sector_Rehabilitation_Project_ASREP_-_Appraisal_Report.pdf)

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