

## Sierra Leone

**The Development Challenge:** Through the combined efforts of a U.N. peacekeeping mission, the World Bank, the international community, and the Government of Sierra Leone in demobilization and disarmament of ex-combatants, peace has been restored, and the reintegration of ex-combatants is nearing completion. Government authority is being slowly reestablished throughout the country, and the peaceful, free, and open Presidential and Parliamentary elections held in May 2002 were an inspiration to many. Although a fragile peace has been realized, the possibility for resumed conflict remains a concern until the transnational region that includes Guinea's Parrot's Beak, Liberia's Lofa County, and the Eastern Region of Sierra Leone is stabilized. Sierra Leone has ranked last for the past three years on the United Nation's Human Development Index, and maternal mortality rates are currently the highest in the world. Although real GDP increased by 5% in 2001, this follows a cumulative decline of 25% during 1997-99, and approximately 66% since 1970.

The United States has several important interests at stake in Sierra Leone. The United States is providing approximately \$300 million per year to help support the world's largest U.N. Peacekeeping Force. It is in the U.S. interest to reinforce the gains achieved over the past 12-24 months to avert the need for future investment of this magnitude. In addition, the United States has a humanitarian interest in preventing a recurrence of the lawlessness and brutal violence that produced thousands of deaths, injuries, assorted war crimes, and hundreds of thousands of refugees. Finally, as the Department of State's Mission Performance Plan clearly lays out, the United States has an interest in supporting the efforts of its ally, the United Kingdom, which has allocated considerable investment of political and diplomatic capital, as well as its military assistance, to stabilize the situation in Sierra Leone.

**The USAID Program:** The Data Sheets below cover the two Special Objectives for which funds are requested for FY 2003 and FY 2004. FY 2004 resources will be provided under the first year of a planned three year extension of the current Transition Strategy. Under the Reintegration Objective, USAID provides social, economic, and physical support to encourage resettlement and reintegration in war-torn communities. As reintegration advances and communities become more economically and socially viable, there is a corresponding need for these communities to develop a capacity to make political decisions and build the practices of a democratic society. Assistance supplied under the Democracy Objective helps broaden participation of local communities and interest groups in key national debates such as the utilization of Sierra Leone's diamond resources, the provision of education, and the limitation of corruption. The program also focuses on youth and gender issues designed to reduce violence and promote community healing.

**Other Program Elements:** Displaced Children and Orphans Funds and War Victims funding provided by USAID's Global Health and Democracy, Conflict, and Humanitarian Assistance (DCHA) bureaus are easing the trauma and suffering of the war-affected through programs which address the needs of the handicapped and abducted women and children through various prosthetics, socio-psychological therapy, and basic vaccination programs. P.L. 480 funds are being used for feeding programs. The USAID Office of Foreign Disaster Assistance provides humanitarian relief programs in the targeted areas of eastern Sierra Leone. Transitional Program funds for Human Rights activities are jointly coordinated with the West Africa Regional Program (WARP). This includes assistance to women, orphans, and other children who have been victims of the war. Finally, joint program funding and coordination extends beyond USAID (e.g., the Kailahun District Hospital, which is jointly planned and financed (with STATE/Population, Refugees and Migration (PRM))).

**Other Donors:** The United States continues to be the leading provider of humanitarian assistance to Sierra Leone. The United States was the largest single donor to the U.N. Consolidated Appeal for Sierra Leone in 2001, providing approximately 54% of the total contributed. The United Kingdom (which ranks first in development assistance), is the next largest donor and provided 10% of the U.N. appeal. The European Union provided approximately 9% (not including contributions to U.N. High Commission for Refugees and International Committee of the Red Cross). Other major donors providing humanitarian assistance (by rank order) include Sweden, Japan, the Netherlands, Switzerland, Norway, and Germany.

## Sierra Leone PROGRAM SUMMARY

(in thousands of dollars)

Accounts	FY 2001 Actual	FY 2002 Actual*	FY 2003 Prior Request	FY 2004 Request
Child Survival and Health Programs Fund	1,884	841	468	500
Development Assistance	3,116	6,413	3,400	3,727
Economic Support Fund	950	10,225	0	5,000
PL 480 Title II	32,974	24,355	0	0
<b>Total Program Funds</b>	<b>38,924</b>	<b>41,834</b>	<b>3,868</b>	<b>9,227</b>

### STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE SUMMARY

636-001 Reintegration				
CSH	1,884	841	468	500
DA	2,616	3,012	3,052	1,910
ESF	950	3,000	0	2,000
636-002 Strengthening Democratic Institutions				
DA	500	3,401	348	1,817
ESF	0	7,225	0	3,000

\* FY 02 appropriated CSH excludes \$234,000 in polio funds programmed under Africa Regional.

## Data Sheet

<b>USAID Mission:</b>	Sierra Leone
<b>Program Title:</b>	Reintegration
<b>Pillar:</b>	Global Development Alliance
<b>Strategic Objective:</b>	636-001
<b>Status:</b>	Continuing
<b>Proposed FY 2003 Obligation:</b>	\$468,000 CSH; \$3,052,000 DA
<b>Prior Year Unobligated:</b>	\$90,000 CSH
<b>Proposed FY 2004 Obligation:</b>	\$500,000 CSH; \$1,910,000 DA; \$2,000,000 ESF
<b>Year of Initial Obligation:</b>	FY 2001
<b>Estimated Completion Date:</b>	FY 2004

**Summary:** This objective assumes that ex-combatants, war-affected youth, and other community members (women, internally displaced persons and returnees) will resettle into their communities if they believe they are returning to a peaceful and stable environment. Under this objective, USAID provides social, economic and physical support to encourage resettlement and reintegration in war-torn communities. The program provides ex-combatants and war-affected youth with job skills, and income and employment opportunities. Activities also include training a broader segment of war-affected communities in conflict management, peace-building and nation-building, as well as rebuilding vital public infrastructure in devastated communities.

### Inputs, Outputs, Activities:

#### FY 2003 Program:

Social reintegration of ex-combatants and war-affected youth (\$468,000 CSH; \$2,452,000 DA). USAID is utilizing DA funds to accelerate reintegration through skills development, employment, cooperation, dialogue, and psycho-social support in the targeted districts of Kono, Kailahun and Koinadugu. Activities strengthen life skills, create temporary employment, and stimulate cooperation between ex-combatants and community members through joint planning and implementation of small-scale civic works projects. By the end of FY 2003, over 145,000 people will have been reintegrated into more than 600 communities. Communities will benefit from: (1) financial support to 246 micro-enterprise groups to strengthen the economic independence of resettling individuals; (2) participation of 4,400 ex-combatants in civic works projects; (3) effective management of 184 community organizations and development projects; and (4) formation of 115 broad-based community management/development committee organizations. CSH funds are being utilized to support a UNICEF-led national polio eradication initiative. Principal contractors and grantees: World Vision International (prime) and Christian Children's Fund (prime).

Education for Peace and Nation-Building (\$600,000 DA). USAID programs extend to war-affected youth and ex-combatants in over 2,000 sites throughout Sierra Leone in the Education for Peace Training Program, teaching literacy and numeracy, along with themes of self-reliance, conflict resolution, agriculture, health and civic participation. By the end of FY 2003, the program will reach an additional 25,300 participants. An anti-corruption activity supports local efforts to fight corruption and promote transparent, accountable governing systems. As the program expands, 200 more civic, community and traditional leaders will be equipped with democratic governance skills in FY 2003. Principal contractors and grantees: Management Systems International (prime) and World Vision International (prime).

Rehabilitation of Public Infrastructure. Using already obligated prior year funding, USAID will support high-visibility, high-impact medical and educational infrastructure rehabilitation projects. Two district hospitals (one in Kono and one in Kailahun) and eight schools (six in Kailahun and two in Kono) will be rehabilitated. Principal contractors and grantees: Premiere Urgence (prime), International Medical Corps (prime) and International Rescue Committee (prime).

#### FY 2004 Program:

Social reintegration of ex-combatants and war-affected youth (\$500,000 CSH; \$1,910,000 DA). Consolidating previous gains, including reaching over 10,000 beneficiaries in 300 communities, USAID will use DA funds to build on the foundations being laid in developing economically viable communities. USAID will continue the aforementioned humanitarian activities that will maintain a community-based focus. At the same time, USAID support will shift our support toward more development-related programs that will strengthen the delivery of basic social services, kick-start the agricultural sector, and increase household incomes. As in previous years, CSH funds will be utilized for the national polio eradication initiative being implemented through UNICEF. Principal contractors and grantees will be the same as in FY 2003.

Rehabilitation of Public Infrastructure (\$2,000,000 ESF). Under a planned program extension, USAID will request ESF to continue rehabilitation of public infrastructure such as schools, hospitals, and clinics that meet the specific needs of target communities. Additionally, key infrastructure, e.g., court facilities, may need to be rehabilitated to complement new ESF-funded initiatives involving the expansion of rule-of-law activities into districts targeted for USAID support. Principal contractors and grantees will be the same as in FY 2003.

P.L. 480 assistance. Under planned monetization and Section 203 grant programs, P.L. 480 assistance will help communities begin the transition to development. Monetization proceeds will be used to help families increase their food production and generate much-needed cash to stimulate local economies.

**Performance and Results:** This program strengthened the ability of communities to set their own rehabilitation priorities by engaging Community Development Committees in the design and identification of projects, while providing resources and technical inputs to rebuild the physical facilities and financial infrastructure of targeted villages, towns, and chiefdoms. Improvements to the physical infrastructure of health and educational facilities helped stabilize targeted communities in the most severely war-affected regions of the country. By the end of FY 2002, over 130,000 displaced persons had returned to the targeted districts; over 10,000 beneficiaries were reached in nearly 300 communities; 84 micro-enterprise groups had received financial support; nearly 2,000 ex-combatants and war-affected youth had participated in public works projects; 8,360 participants had benefited from reintegration skills training; 33 community-based organizations were formed; and 154 participants were provided with democratic governance skills. By the end of FY 2003, it is envisioned that over 145,000 displaced persons will have returned to targeted districts, with over 600 communities and 25,300 beneficiaries reached by the range of program interventions.

## US Financing in Thousands of Dollars

Sierra Leone

636-001 Reintegration	CSH	DA	DFA	ESF
<b>Through September 30, 2001</b>				
Obligations	1,750	1,816	1,710	570
Expenditures	0	51	760	0
Unliquidated	1,750	1,765	950	570
<b>Fiscal Year 2002</b>				
Obligations	750	2,004	0	5,280
Expenditures	1,357	695	950	2,739
<b>Through September 30, 2002</b>				
Obligations	2,500	3,820	1,710	5,850
Expenditures	1,357	746	1,710	2,739
Unliquidated	1,143	3,074	0	3,111
<b>Prior Year Unobligated Funds</b>				
Obligations	90	0	0	0
<b>Planned Fiscal Year 2003 NOA</b>				
Obligations	468	3,052	0	0
<b>Total Planned Fiscal Year 2003</b>				
Obligations	558	3,052	0	0
<b>Proposed Fiscal Year 2004 NOA</b>				
Obligations	500	1,910	0	2,000
Future Obligations	0	0	0	0
Est. Total Cost	3,558	8,782	1,710	7,850

## Data Sheet

<b>USAID Mission:</b>	Sierra Leone
<b>Program Title:</b>	Strengthening Democratic Institutions
<b>Pillar:</b>	Democracy, Conflict and Humanitarian Assistance
<b>Strategic Objective:</b>	636-002
<b>Status:</b>	Continuing
<b>Proposed FY 2003 Obligation:</b>	\$348,000 DA
<b>Prior Year Unobligated:</b>	\$0
<b>Proposed FY 2004 Obligation:</b>	\$1,817,000 DA; \$3,000,000 ESF
<b>Year of Initial Obligation:</b>	FY 2001
<b>Estimated Completion Date:</b>	FY 2004

**Summary:** Sierra Leone's decade-long civil war is widely blamed on years of bad governance, inefficient governance institutions, widespread corruption, and the inequitable distribution of the benefits of the country's mineral resources. For years, over two-thirds of the country's population, particularly women and youth, were marginalized from key decision-making processes, leading to disenfranchisement, a lack of opportunities for dialogue, entrenched poverty, and heightened frustration. With the return of peace, USAID is addressing these "root causes" of the civil war by enhancing democratic institutions and strengthening democratic governance practices in Sierra Leone through increasing the capacity of communities to make informed political decisions, and internalizing the practices of a democratic society.

### **Inputs, Outputs, Activities:**

#### **FY 2003 Program:**

Broadened Community-based Political Participation (\$348,000 DA). In FY 2003, local-level governance will be strengthened through a Civic Forum program, an intensive grassroots process that builds local groups' ability to organize democratically and to advocate constructively for mutually agreed-upon outcomes, such as establishing development priorities through Community Development Committees. USAID will also train 24 newly elected Parliamentarians, along with 18 women members of parliament, to develop constituency-relations skills to help open up political dialogue, and to ensure that constituents' views are adequately and effectively represented. Principal contractors and grantees: National Democratic Institute (NDI) (prime).

Increased Participation in National Dialogue. Using already obligated prior-year funds, USAID will continue to increase the ability of Sierra Leone citizens to amplify their role in the national political dialogue. Talking Drums Studio Sierra Leone (TDSSL) will continue innovative media activities, including rural radio, music and drama, to disseminate information that encourages peace and reconciliation, and expands participation in public affairs by informed community leaders. TDSSL will develop, produce, and broadcast popular radio programs on all major national radio stations, as well as offer support to individual radio stations to expand their programs that disseminate developmental information. Sub-regional activities including discussion of issues related to elections, HIV/AIDS, diamond mining, local governance, and agricultural/environmental practices. Radio access will be expanded to many communities long cut off from access to national communications. Principal contractors and grantees: Search For Common Ground/Talking Drums Studio Sierra Leone (SFCG/TDSSL) (prime).

Improved Diamond Sector Management. Utilizing already obligated prior-year funds, USAID will strengthen the Government of Sierra Leone's (GOSL) ability to regulate and monitor the country's diamond resources using a two-pronged effort. A Diamond Policy & Management Reform activity will assist the GOSL in improving the regulation and oversight of the industry. This program will continue to track the "chain of custody" of stones from miner to exporter to assist with the Government's determination of the levels of smuggling and identification of steps to reduce illegal diamond trading. This program will also help ensure the fair allocation of Diamond Mining Community Development Fund rebates to communities by publicly informing communities of the amount of disbursements and by

engaging community groups in programming these resources for development purposes. The second “prong” is the Kono Peace Diamond Public/ Private Alliance (KPDPPA), set up to harness what had been a “conflict resource” and convert it to an “investment resource.” This will be accomplished through a variety of actions such as creating transparent pricing and licensing structures; developing appropriate and equitable credit mechanisms; organizing and developing civil-society “watch groups,” etc. The KPDPPA will involve the international diamond industry, the GOSL Ministry of Mineral Resources, the private sector in Sierra Leone, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), donors, and residents in the diamond-producing community of Kono. In FY 2003, over 850 new legitimate mining licenses will be awarded, adding an \$8 million increase in the value of legally exported diamonds for the GOSL. Principal contractors and grantees: Management Systems International (prime).

Human Rights. USAID plans to contribute already obligated prior-year funds to the West Africa Regional Program (WARP) Mano River Union Peacekeeping program to support targeted gender-based violence prevention and recovery efforts in Sierra Leone. A consortium of partners will provide psycho-therapeutic treatment and support to victims of gender-based violence; skills and vocational training (e.g. tailoring, baking, soap-making) to facilitate community reintegration; and community-wide awareness campaigns on victims of torture. Local NGOs in the Mano River Union countries will raise awareness and promote dialogue and advocacy regarding gender-based violence in their human rights awareness campaigns. Principal contractors and grantees: to be determined.

**FY 2004 Program:**

Increased Participation in National Dialogue (\$1,000,000 ESF). Under a planned program extension, the TDSSL activity, widely considered by the GOSL and international community to be a cornerstone in the continued promotion of reconciliation and information dissemination efforts, will continue with joint funding from the United Kingdom, the Netherlands, and Norway. As the drawdown of U.N. peacekeeping forces continues, this activity will play an important role in a stepped-up anti-corruption effort. Principal contractors and grantees: To be determined.

Improved Diamond Sector Management (\$1,817,000 DA). This activity will be expanded under the transitional strategy extension by giving incentives for communities and government to make positive changes in the way alluvial diamonds are mined in Sierra Leone. The program will also consolidate the advances made in development of private sector alliances currently contributing to the success of this high-visibility program. Principal contractors and grantees: To be determined.

Human Rights/Rule of Law (\$2,000,000 ESF). Under a planned program extension, activities will include expansion of Rule of Law activities (e.g., training of local magistrates, conducting legal defense clinics, improving access to small claims courts, etc.), continued support (if needed) to the Special Court, a broad-based anti-corruption effort, and support to Sierra Leone Human Rights NGOs. Principal contractors and grantees: To be determined.

**Performance and Results:** By providing support to the National Election Commission, USAID contributed to the country’s successful management of the first democratic, nationwide presidential and parliamentary elections in Sierra Leone nearly 30 years. In addition, training was provided to all registered political parties, as well as to female candidates. As a result of the recent elections, nine of the trainees gained seats in Parliament. With USAID support, remarkable progress has been made in fostering a developmental dialogue using popular radio programs and on-air fora aired across the country. The program continues to expand radio access to communities that have been cut off from national communications, particularly in the districts of Kono, Kailahun and Koinadugu. With complementary support from other donors, USAID leveraged greater influence in rationalizing diamond sector management and assisting the government of Sierra Leone to gain more control of its diamond resources. For the first time, through USAID technical assistance and policy dialogue, local diamond mining communities received direct financial benefits in proportion to legal mining taking place within their chiefdoms. In FY 2002, legal exports increased by nearly 50% from \$25 million to \$37 million, and proceeds to mining communities nearly doubled from about \$145,000 to \$280,000. By the end of the current Transition Strategy in FY 2003, this objective will have prepared the ground for more sustainable development programs in the years ahead. By increasing the capacity of communities to make political

decisions and internalize practices of a democratic society, the objective will have contributed to the overall program goal of achieving peace, security, and stability in Sierra Leone.



## US Financing in Thousands of Dollars

Sierra Leone

	DA	ESF
636-002 Strengthening Democratic Institutions		
<b>Through September 30, 2001</b>		
Obligations	500	0
Expenditures	0	0
Unliquidated	500	0
<b>Fiscal Year 2002</b>		
Obligations	4,396	1,725
Expenditures	402	48
<b>Through September 30, 2002</b>		
Obligations	4,896	1,725
Expenditures	402	48
Unliquidated	4,494	1,677
<b>Prior Year Unobligated Funds</b>		
Obligations	0	0
<b>Planned Fiscal Year 2003 NOA</b>		
Obligations	348	0
<b>Total Planned Fiscal Year 2003</b>		
Obligations	348	0
<b>Proposed Fiscal Year 2004 NOA</b>		
Obligations	1,817	3,000
Future Obligations	0	0
Est. Total Cost	7,061	4,725