

ENGINEERS WITHOUT BORDERS DENMARK

10 years in Sierra Leone



Building a better tomorrow

- EWB-DK is a technical humanitarian organization establishing life-saving and sustainable measures for people in need and poverty and thereby supporting the UN Sustainable Development Goals.
- Building a better tomorrow requires basic human rights to be present, so that diseases and epidemics can be avoided and basic conditions for a dignified life are provided.



EWB-DK in numbers

- Established in 2001
- 1,300+ members – volunteers
- Work through partners in south –
current projects 14 /completed
projects approx. 70 – 10.4 million DKK



Our vision

EWB-DK works to develop strong and sustainable communities and to support development processes, based on equal and fair distribution of the world's available resources.



Our mission

- To support vulnerable groups through technical, sustainable and local solutions.
- To carry out development and relief work through the support of the Danish resource base.
- To build knowledge and skills in our resource base to work in a global development context



Strategic focus

WASH: WATER, SANITATION AND HYGIENE



FOOD SECURITY



ENVIRONMENT: WASTE, ENERGY AND PLANNING



DISASTER RELIEF AND PREPAREDNESS



Sierra Leone in numbers

- Area: 71,740 km²
- Population: 7,092,113
- Agricultural land: 56.2 %
- Forest: 37.5 %
- Electrification: 6 % of population
- Electricity from fossil fuels: 33.3 %
- Electricity from hydroelectric: 66.7 %
- Roadways: 11,300 km
- Paved roadways: 904 km



Extreme poverty and gender inequality

- Sierra Leone is one of the poorest countries in the world, ranked as 179 of 188.
- About 60 % of the population live under the poverty line, with a concentration in rural areas.
- More than 40 % of the population has no access to potable water and about 60% do not have adequate sanitation.
- Diarrhoeal diseases are among the three most occurring causes of death.
- Significant gender-based inequalities in reproductive health, empowerment and economic activity.



Environmental problems and vulnerability to climate change

- Open defecation and unsustainable mining activities contributes to pollution of water resources.
- Dependence on biomass based energy (80 % of the total) and rising demands from agribusiness results in massive deforestation (3,000 hectares a year) and increased risk of soil erosion and landslides.



Unemployment and lack of technical skills

- Youth unemployment rate of about 60 % is closely connected to high levels of illiteracy and unskilled labour, a lack of private sector jobs, and low pay.
- The Ebola outbreak during 2014-2015, combined with falling global commodities prices and the lack of technical and vocational skills inhibits economic growth.
- Heavily dependent on foreign aid, with about 50 % of public investment programmes financed by external resources.

