

July - September 2025

World Vision

EVERY HEART Newsletter

In this **FOURTH QUARTER** edition are stories of transformation and personal testimonies of change.

Happy Reading!

World Vision

World Vision International Sierra Leone

MESSAGE FROM THE NATIONAL DIRECTOR

As we close the fourth quarter of 2025, I am filled with gratitude. This season marks a meaningful moment in our shared journey, one of reflection, continuity, and collective hope for the children and communities we serve.

Stepping into this role following Mr. Sagane Thiaw's impactful leadership was an honour. His years of service have left an indelible mark on World Vision International Sierra Leone, and I am committed to building on the strong foundation he and the team have established. Together, we will continue to drive transformation that uplifts lives, strengthens partnerships, and empowers communities to thrive until the substantive National Director takes over in January 2025.

The stories in this edition capture the heart of our mission from children like Naferema, whose dreams are rekindled through education and sponsorship, to communities gaining sustainable access to clean water, improved health, and renewed livelihoods. These are not just stories of progress; they are stories of hope and resilience, made possible through the dedication of our staff, the trust of our partners, and the generosity of our supporters.

As we look ahead, World Vision Sierra Leone remains steadfast in its commitment to creating lasting change for every child, especially the most vulnerable. Together, let us continue to serve with compassion, courage, and faith, knowing that the best is yet to come.

With gratitude,

Philippe Guiton

Interim National Director

World Vision International Sierra Leone

World Vision Sierra Leone WASH Sector Welcomes Global WASH Team on Field Visit to Freetown Communities



- Samuel Diarra, Technical Director, WASH Quality & Innovation
- Godfrey Mawa, Regional WASH Director

First stop: Kissy – East End of Freetown
Once known for its health institutions, Kissy had also become known for a harsh reality: no clean water. Thousands struggled daily. Girls fetched water late at night, risking abuse and danger. Homes were broken into. Water was rationed, and in some cases, exploited. But then came change. The team stood before a towering solar-powered water

On Monday, August 4th, 2025, the WASH sector of World Vision International Sierra Leone, led by Patrick Giama (WASH Manager), hosted a high-level delegation from the World Vision Global WASH team on a field visit to Kissy and Kola Tree communities in the East End of Freetown. The purpose of the visit was to witness firsthand the transformative impact of water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) interventions on the lives of vulnerable community members.

The delegation included:

- Parvin Ngala, Global WASH Director
- Fungai Makoni, Senior Director, Global WASH Operations



facility built by World Vision, in collaboration with the Freetown City Council, and funded by the Africa Heineken Foundation. It now serves over 3,000 people, piped through 12 tap stands, with lighting installed for safety and a well-trained community water committee ensuring sustainability. Next stop: Kola Tree – Uphill Calaba Town

Up the steep hills of Calaba Town, the team visited Kola Tree Maternal and Child Health Post, a place where water was once a dream and healthcare was slipping away. Women walked miles for water. The only clinic was a donated house in disrepair.



World Vision Donates 1,000 Cartons of Hand Gloves to the Ministry of Health, Freetown, Sierra Leone

World Vision Sierra Leone, with support from its Canada Support Office, has donated 1,000 cartons of medical hand gloves to the Ministry of Health to enhance infection prevention and control measures in healthcare facilities.

The handover ceremony took place on August 20, 2025, at the Ministry's Youyi Building grounds, bringing together senior officials from both the Ministry and World Vision.

The total consignment received through World Vision's Canada Support Office comprises 1,920 cartons, with 1,000 cartons allocated to the Ministry and the remaining 920 cartons designated for health facilities across Sierra Leone.

Speaking at the ceremony, Mr. Phillippe Guiton, Interim National Director of World Vision Sierra Leone, reaffirmed the organization's commitment to strengthening the country's health system:

"Healthcare workers are on the frontlines every day, and ensuring they have the right protective gear is essential for safe and effective service delivery. This donation demonstrates our continued partnership with the Ministry to

protect both health workers and patients," said Mr. Guiton.

Receiving the donation, Dr. Sartie Kenneh, Chief Medical Officer, expressed gratitude for the timely support:

"We deeply appreciate World Vision's contribution. These gloves will go a long way in ensuring the safety of our healthcare professionals and improving patient care," Dr. Kenneh noted.

Other key attendees included the Permanent Secretary, Mr. Andrew Sorie, the Director of Hospital Services, the NGO Donor Coordinator, and other senior Ministry officials. From World Vision, the event was attended by the Strategy and Programs Director, Mannah Josiah, the ACEEP Director, Mary Patricia Baidu Kobbah, and other senior staff.



Hope in Delman Yedu: Naferema's Transformation Through Sponsorship



Naferema is a young girl from a small village in the Delman Yedu Area Program, where many children face the hardships of poverty, limited access to education, and scarce healthcare. She dreamed of going to school, but her family struggled to provide for her and her siblings. Their income from farming was barely enough to cover basic needs, making education seem out of reach.

When World Vision began work in Delman Yedu, Naferema was enrolled in the Child Sponsorship program. Through her sponsor's support, she received school supplies, uniforms, and shoes, resources that transformed her ability to attend school regularly. With these opportunities, Naferema thrived academically. Her teachers recognized her potential and encouraged her to pursue her studies with dedication,

boosting her confidence and love for learning.

Beyond education, World Vision's health and nutrition programs helped Naferema and her family adopt better hygiene and nutrition practices, improving their overall well-being. Inspired by her sponsor and her supportive community, Naferema says, "I want to become a teacher. I want to give back to my village and help other children like me achieve their dreams."

Naferema's story demonstrates the profound impact of child sponsorship. With the support of World Vision and her dedicated sponsor, her life is being transformed, bringing hope not only to her family but to the wider community. Her journey illustrates that with the right support, children can overcome adversity, pursue their dreams, and contribute meaningfully to the betterment of their communities.

From Struggle to Stability: Strengthening Livelihoods and Gender Equity in Kalini Area Program:

In Kalini Area Program, food insecurity driven by poor infrastructure and limited farming inputs has contributed to low agricultural yields and child malnutrition. Through the

Sustainable Livelihood Enhancement project, World Vision Sierra Leone engaged 320 stakeholders and supported 120 households with livestock, in partnership with the Ministry of Agriculture. To promote education, the AP collaborated with MBSSE to monitor exams for 1,557 pupils and supported three reading clubs benefiting 75 children. Additionally, the introduction of the Savings for Transformation model empowered women economically, generating SLE 74,634 in savings, and strengthened gender equity, household unity, and family well-being, positively impacting 366 children.

Beyond Access: Understanding the Factors Sustaining WASH Interventions in Rural Sierra Leone.

World Vision Sierra Leone, through its Research, Documentation, and Learning team, conducted a qualitative study to explore the key factors sustaining WASH interventions in rural communities. A training session for enumerators was held in Bo District, ahead of data collection in Korribondo, Tinqu, and Upper Komendeh using Focus Group Discussions and Key Informant Interviews. The study emphasizes the importance of community-led systems for clean water access and hygiene, highlighting the empowerment of children as health behavior influencers. Findings will be shared to contribute to discussions on sustainable WASH practices.

Profuturo Project Update: Advancing Digital Learning

During the week of July 14, 2025, World Vision Sierra Leone, through the Education Technical Program Manager, completed the distribution of digital learning kits to three selected primary schools in Pujehun District, marking full deployment of ProFuturo equipment across Kono, Bo, and Pujehun. This milestone reflects World Vision's commitment to enhancing digital literacy and improving learning outcomes for children. While distribution in three schools in Bonthe District is still pending, plans are in place to complete this by the week of July 21. The initiative continues to bridge the digital divide and strengthen 21st-century learning across targeted communities.

Monitoring and Technical Support Visit by World Vision Spain Programme Officer

The Programme Officer from World Vision Spain conducted a monitoring and technical support visit to World Vision International Sierra Leone (WVISL) from July 29 to August 2, 2025. The main objective of the visit was to review the progress of the ProFuturo digital education project, identify areas for technical improvement, and reinforce collaboration between World Vision Spain and WVISL.

The Programme Officer shared positive feedback, commending WVISL's commitment to quality education delivery through digital platforms. He encouraged the continued integration of digital tools at school level and called for sustained capacity building for teachers and local partners.

This visit reaffirmed the shared commitment of World Vision Spain and WVISL to ensuring inclusive and equitable access to quality digital education for vulnerable children in Sierra Leone. The insights gained will inform future project phases and contribute to achieving greater impact.



World Vision International Sierra Leone Key Impacts Highlight

In September 2025, World Vision International Sierra Leone impacted lives across the Southern Province through health, education, protection, and community initiatives. In Makpele, 183 participants benefited from CHW mentorship, while 520 stakeholders engaged in meetings to strengthen community health systems. For education, 66 community mobilizers were trained in literacy promotion, and 100 School Management Committee members enhanced school governance capacity. Community engagement reached 790 participants during close-out sessions in GalliKrim, while 320 stakeholders from religious groups participated in faith-based dialogues in Barri Chiefdom. Child protection initiatives engaged 200 parents on positive discipline, 207 participants on community by-laws preventing child violence, and featured a disabled child from Malen in a continental webinar on inclusive education. These efforts reflect World Vision's commitment to empowering communities and advancing children's well-being in Sierra Leone.

World Vision International Sierra Leone made significant progress in its Northern Region Area Programs in September 2025. In Kalini AP, 951 registered children were monitored for health, education, nutrition, participation and protection. Educational initiatives reached 165 school-aged children and 57 early childhood learners, while 2,633 RCs in the Sulima AP received school uniforms. Health programs benefited 648 children through ANC services, immunization, deworming, and nutrition screening, resulting in improved outcomes. Livelihood initiatives empowered 127 households through better livestock management and supported 445 children through S4T groups. Child protection efforts included training 50 faith leaders and resolving 16 of the 21 community feedback cases. The quality of education has improved through teacher training and resource provision. WVISL interventions enhance child well-being, protect vulnerable children, and foster community development.

In September 2025, World Vision International Sierra Leone (WVISL) improved water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) outcomes across its communities. Of the 17 boreholes for construction or rehabilitation, five reached 90-95% completion, six are at 70-89%, and six remain ongoing due to poor road access. Among the 19teen gender- and disability-sensitive VIP latrines, fifteen are 80-95% complete, two are 70-89% complete, and two await purchase orders. Post-monitoring identified and rectified defects, such as faulty ball valves and taps. Joint monitoring by district engineers, councils, Ministry of Health representatives, and stakeholders enhanced quality assurance. The team mobilized schools to clear the environment and establish handwashing stations before reopening. These interventions improved water access, sanitation, and maternal and child health while fostering stakeholder collaboration for community development.



Leadership Transition – World Vision Sierra Leone

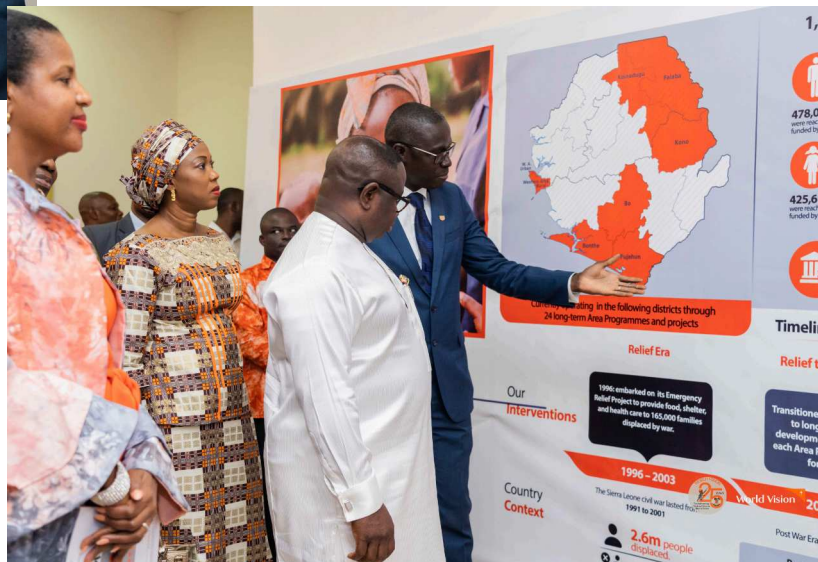


As part of the transition, the leadership team embarked on a series of courtesy visits to key government ministries. These visits provided an opportunity to introduce Mr. Guiton and to extend heartfelt appreciation to partners for their steadfast collaboration and support throughout Mr. Thiaw's leadership.

The transition marks not just a change in leadership, but a reaffirmation of World Vision Sierra Leone's unwavering commitment to continue working hand in hand with government, communities, and partners to create lasting change for children.

On July 18, 2025, World Vision Sierra Leone turned a new page in its leadership journey. After several years of dedicated service, Mr. Sagane Thiaw concluded his tenure as National Director, leaving behind a legacy of compassion, commitment, and impact in the lives of the most vulnerable children and communities.

To ensure continued momentum in World Vision's mission, Mr. Philippe Guiton was appointed as Interim National Director. With his wealth of experience and passion for transformational development, Mr. Guiton steps into the role ready to build on the solid foundation laid by his predecessor.



For more information and updates, visit our [website](https://www.wvi.org/sierra-leone) and follow us on our social media handles

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