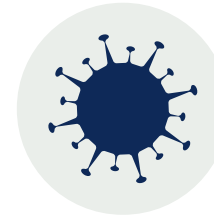




SIERRA LEONE



The U.S. has supported Sierra Leone's Global Health Security (GHS) since 2015



Sierra Leone is at risk for epidemic prone infectious diseases, including viral hemorrhagic fevers, zoonotic influenza, plague, & anthrax



First Joint External Evaluation (JEE) conducted in 2016; follow-up done in 2023

The U.S. Government (USG) GHS Program in Sierra Leone

The U.S. partners with the Government of Sierra Leone to strengthen the country's capacities to prevent, detect, and respond to infectious disease threats.

USG's Global Health Security investments also support stronger, more resilient health systems, including training human and animal health workers, strengthening laboratories, and bolstering surveillance systems. These investments support and build on those made by the Government of Sierra Leone, in coordination with other partners and stakeholders.

Current and planned GHS activities reflect national priorities, build on best available data, and align with the country context and the health system.

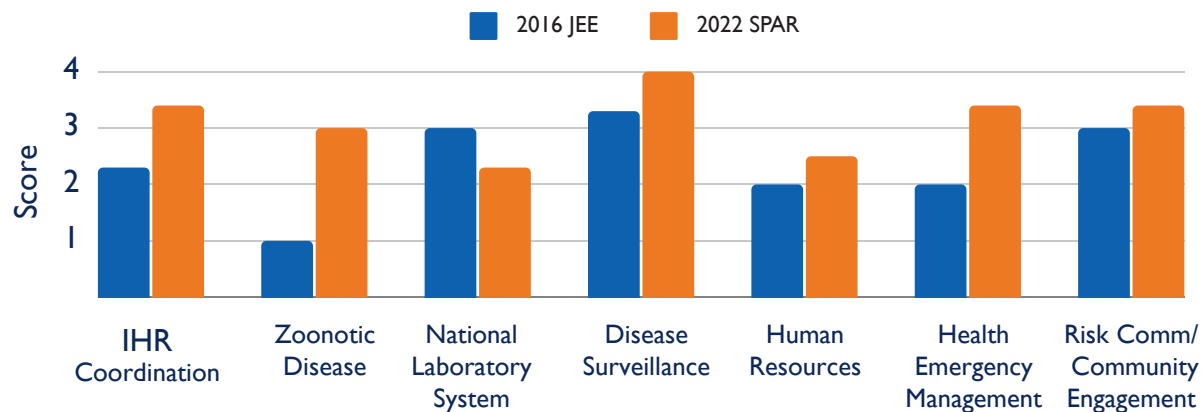
Disease detectives conduct routine surveillance of health records to monitor for disease threats.
Credit: Erika Meyer/CDC

Sierra Leone

Impact of GHS Investments

Sierra Leone has made significant progress strengthening its health security. The Joint External Evaluation (JEE) is a voluntary external assessment of health security capacities conducted approximately every 4-5 years while the States Party Annual Report (SPAR) is an annual self-assessment of these capacities conducted by the governments themselves. The chart below estimates the progress made in the technical areas endorsed by the Government of Sierra Leone for U.S. GHS collaboration.

Sierra Leone GHS Capacity Scores Over Time*



*These tools provide the best approximation of GHS capacities though they use different methodologies. As a result direct comparisons may have limitations.

Notable Achievements with U.S. Support

- 2023 National Public Health Act signed by President giving legal foundation for the National Public Health Agency
- Multisectoral surge workforce deployment mechanism developed and validated; core personnel with specialized skills identified and rostered in a web-based platform
- National brucellosis & anthrax control strategies developed
- National surveillance and reporting strengthened with at least three Field Epidemiology Training program trained staff in each district, and 60 public health workers graduated as infection prevention and control specialists.
- Roadmap in place for international accreditation of National Reference Laboratory.
- Central Veterinary Lab able to test for anthrax, E. coli, and other pathogens
- The In-Service Applied Veterinary Epidemiology Training Program established; 1st cohort graduated 2023
- 97% of target population have received COVID-19 vaccine
- Community-based simulation for Lassa fever conducted
- District-level contingency plans developed for priority biological hazards based on national risk assessments

Priority Technical Areas Endorsed by the Government of Sierra Leone for U.S. GHS Investments



IHR
Coordination



Zoonotic
Disease



National
Laboratory



Disease
Surveillance



Human
Resources



Health
Emergency
Management



Risk Comm/
Community
Engagement

Additional areas of investments include: Antimicrobial Resistance, Biosafety & Biosecurity, Immunization, Infection Prevention & Control, and Points of Entry