

# SIERRA LEONE

## IN 2024

Sierra Leone is one of the poorest countries in sub-Saharan Africa, where most people live below the poverty line. **Soaring prices, inflation and climate change** have further worsened the situation, making the national health system one of the most fragile in the world. The work done by CUAMM in Sierra Leone aims to guarantee **basic healthcare** to the most vulnerable groups of people, especially mothers, children and the elderly. We continued our support for **Princess Christian Maternity Hospital (PCMH) in Freetown**, the main reference point for maternity in the country, through assistance with childbirth, support for the work done in the *High Dependency Unit (HDU)* and a contribution to the **School of Obstetrics and Gynecology** at the University of Sierra Leone. We also continued to upgrade infrastructure to improve the **emergency system** at PCMH, which culminated with the opening of the **new emergency room** and the spaces for outpatients at the center, a national reference for maternity. We also continued our support for the High Density Units (HDUs) at the **hospitals of Makeni, Bo and Pujehun** through specialized courses for nursing staff and incentives for local personnel. These units are fundamental to ensuring intensive care for critical patients, thereby improving the overall level of treatment. At **Pujehun**, CUAMM supported the Maternal and Children's Hospital by

sending doctors and providing essential equipment and drugs, which often are not available through governmental channels. At the *Main Hospital*, we continued our activities to **prevent and treat chronic diseases** as part of the WHO's *PEN Plus initiative*. A project to combat **malnutrition** was also implemented in Pujehun. It included **training healthcare staff**, awareness-raising campaigns and the promotion of nutritional best practices. Moreover, the project encouraged the creation of groups of women to manage **microcredit activities** designed to promote the development of small agricultural businesses. The **emergency transportation system** was strengthened in the district, supporting the use of motorcycles and boats to transport patients from rural areas and helping pay for the operation of the national ambulance system that is managed by the Health Ministry. Lastly, 2024 saw the launch of a national program for the **prevention of obstetric fistula**, which includes the engagement of CUAMM staff in the training of medical personnel and in the structural renovation of nine level I and II healthcare facilities scattered throughout the country.

## 2024 SNAPSHOT

**93**  
human resources

**53**  
health facilities supported

**€2,442,588**  
invested in projects

## COUNTRY PROFILE

**Freetown**  
capital city

**8,908,040**  
population

**71,740 km<sup>2</sup>**  
land area

**19.2 years**  
average age of the population

**57.5/60.7 years**  
life expectancy at birth (m/f)

**3.7**  
average number of children per woman

**184th**  
out of 191 countries  
HDI ranking



**443**  
**out of every 100,000 live births**  
maternal mortality



**105**  
**out of every 1,000 live births**  
under-5 child deaths



**31**  
**out of every 1,000 live births**  
newborn deaths



## WHERE WE WORK



### WESTERN AREA

**2 hospitals**  
Connaught Hospital  
and Princess Christian  
Maternity Hospital  
**5 health centers**

### WESTERN AREA RURAL

**5 health centers**

### PORT LOKO

**2 health centers**

### BOMBALI DISTRICT

**2 hospitals**  
Holy Spirit and Makeni



### BO DISTRICT

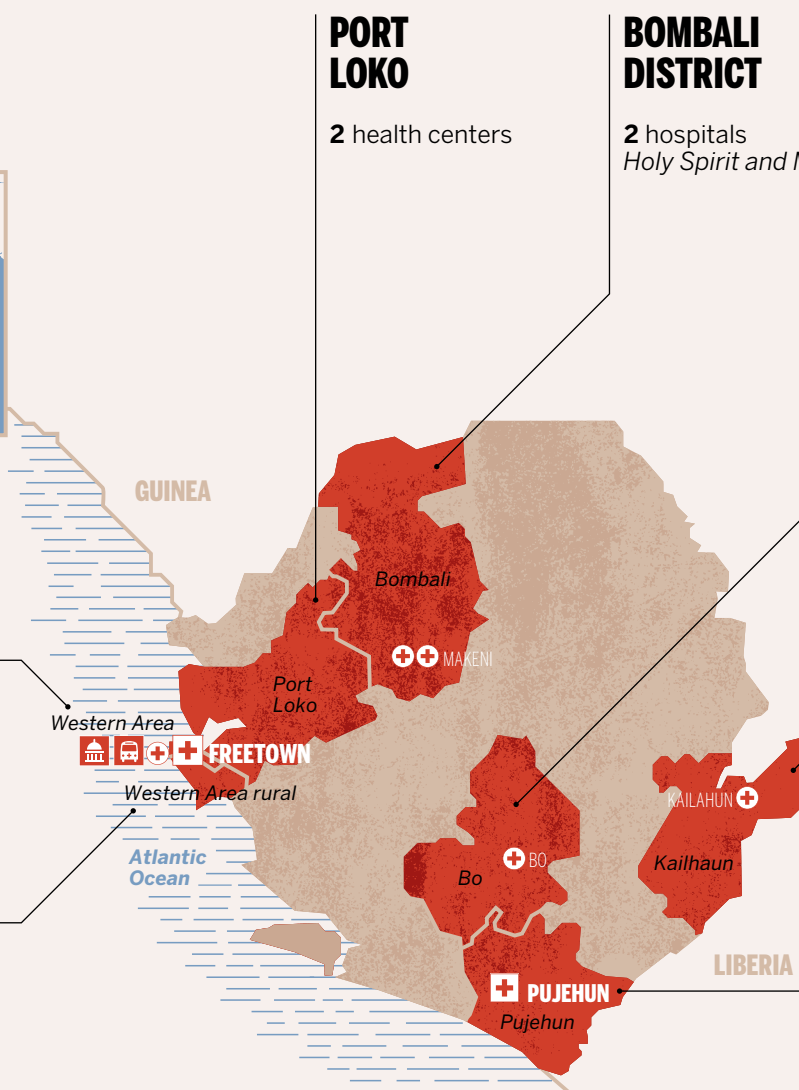
**1 hospital** Bo Hospital

### KAILHAUN

**1 hospital**  
Kailhaun Gov Hospital  
**4 health centers**






### PUJEHUN DISTRICT

**1 hospital**  
Pujehun Hospital  
**30 health centers**



0 40 80 km

## RESULTS

	<b>MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH</b>	<b>67,577</b> prenatal doctor's visits	<b>24,722</b> deliveries attended	<b>98,132</b> under-5 children examined	<b>4,245</b> trips provided for obstetric emergencies
	<b>NUTRITION</b>	<b>299</b> children treated for severe acute malnutrition			
	<b>INFECTIOUS DISEASES</b>	<b>149,488</b> patients treated for malaria	<b>16,820</b> under-5 children treated for acute respiratory infections		
	<b>CONTINUAL TRAINING</b>	<b>21</b> nurses and	<b>68</b> midwives	<b>7</b> doctors	<b>68</b> others
	<b>CHRONIC DISEASES</b>	<b>660</b> visits for diabetes	<b>1,715</b> visits for hypertension		