

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 km²
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

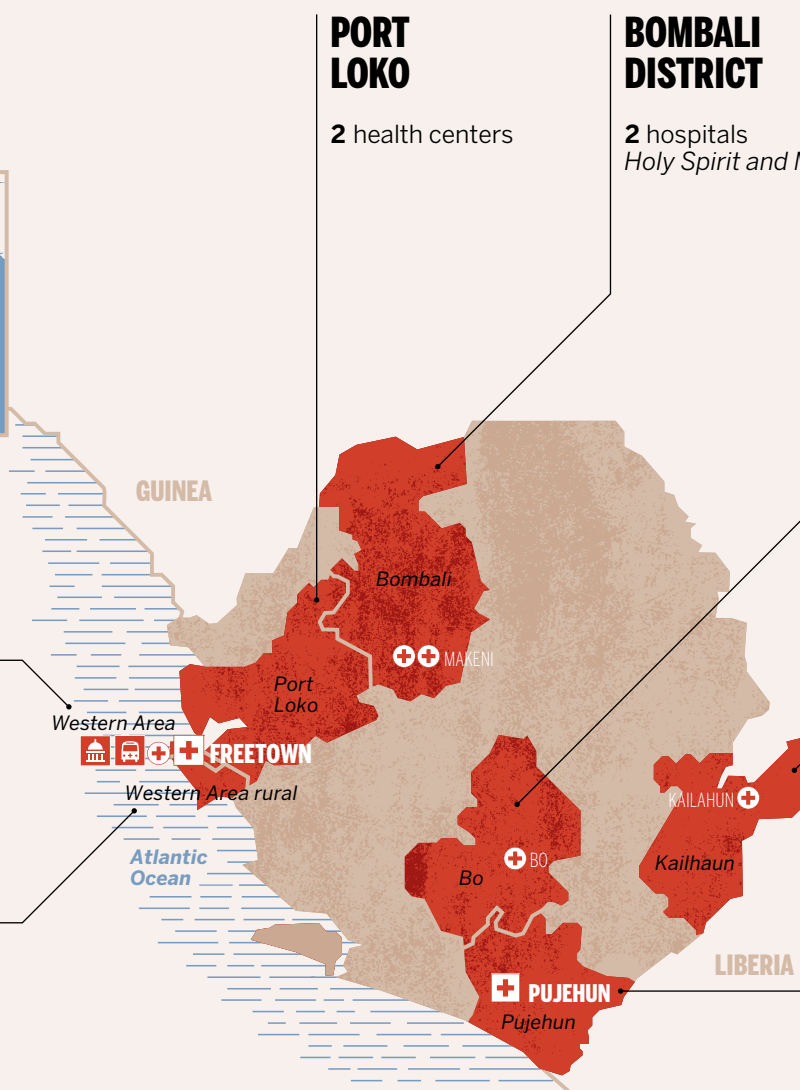
1 hospital Bo Hospital

KAILHAUN

1 hospital
Kailhaun Gov Hospital
4 health centers

PUJEHUN DISTRICT

1 hospital
Pujehun Hospital
30 health centers



RESULTS

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