

WATER FORWARD
Sierra Leone
Water Compact

For a Water-Secure Sierra Leone



REPUBLIC OF SIERRA LEONE

Ministry of Water Resources and Sanitation



NATIONAL WATER COMPACT

A Water-Secure Sierra Leone

2026 – 2030

Sierra Leone's commitment to water security, sanitation safety, and climate resilience by 2030, aligned with the World Bank Water Forward framework.

Endorsed by the Ministry of Water Resources and Sanitation

Submitted to the World Bank Water Forward Initiative, February 2026

To be launched at the World Bank Group Spring Meetings, Washington D.C., April 2026



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13th February 2026

To: Mission Water, World Bank

The World Bank
1818 H Street
Washington D.C.
USA

Subject: Submission of Water Compact - Sierra Leone

On behalf of **Sierra Leone**, I am pleased to submit this draft Water Compact to the World Bank for review as part of its **Mission Water**. Sierra Leone is committed to delivering water security to all 8.6 million people by 2030, with a major focus on two of the Mission Water pillars: Water for People and Water for Planet.

We recognize that achieving this goal requires leadership and commitment from the highest level, close coordination among partners, and mobilizing significant financing. To deliver on the Compact, Sierra Leone prepared a roadmap (attached), which outlines the required activities and projects, goals and milestones to measure progress, and the level of investment needed, including public funds to leverage private capital.

President Julius Maada Bio and the entire government is firmly committed to policy and institutional reforms in the Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) sector, as demonstrated by the official launch in Freetown in July 2025 of Sierra Leone's National WASH Sector Development Program 2025–2035. This national program and other analytical work form the basis of this compact. We are grateful to the World Bank for its support through analytical work, trust fund mobilization, and the recently approved Water Security and WASH Access Improvement Multiphase Programmatic Approach and first phase Project.

Building on Sierra Leone's strong policy direction and leadership, the attached draft Water Compact aims to accelerate improvement in sector reforms, water resources planning and protection, utility service delivery improvement and sanitation development. The Government will use the donor coordination platform established under the Bank project to engage technical and financial partners to support Water Compact implementation, and to enable mobilizing private sector.

We look forward to engaging further with the World Bank Group to finalize and operationalize Sierra Leone's Water Compact, so it can be formally launched during the World Bank Group 2026 Spring Meetings. The main contact for the implementation of this Compact is:

Name: *Sao-Kpato Hannah Isatta Max-Kyne*
Title: *Minister*
Organization: *Ministry of Water Resources and Sanitation*

We appreciate the opportunity to deepen our engagement and look forward to working to advance this important agenda.

Sincerely,

Allieu Bakarr-Conteh
Permanent Secretary
Ministry of Water Resources and Sanitation
56 Liverpool Street
Freetown, Sierra Leone

Attachments:

--Roadmap

--Sierra Leone's National WASH Sector Development Program 2025–2035

February 2026

A Water-Secure Sierra Leone.

National Water Compact for Sierra Leone

2026 – 2030



**Ministry of Water Resources
and Sanitation**

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1. Background

This National Water Compact articulates Sierra Leone's commitment to achieving water security, sanitation safety, and climate resilience by 2030, consistent with the World Bank Group's Mission Water framework. The Compact translates national priorities set out in the National WASH Sector Development Programme (NWASHSDP 2025–2035) into a focused Water Compact, with clear and time-bound commitments.

Sierra Leone has abundant water resources and is considered one of the least water-stressed countries in West Africa. However, this natural advantage has not resulted in widespread access to safe and reliable Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH) services. The country faces growing economic water scarcity due to underinvestment, weak institutional, and the combined impacts of climate change, urbanization, and population growth, which hinder the country's development goals and weaken human capital development.

Access to basic water nationwide is 62.6 percent, but only 10.6 (WASHNORM – 2022) percent of the population has access to safely managed water. Sanitation access is limited, with 25.1 percent of people practising open defecation and 68.6 percent lacking basic sanitation services. Additionally, access to basic hygiene services is critically low at 12 percent. These gaps lead to significant health and economic costs, reduce educational achievement, harm ecosystems, and decrease productivity. Five/ major challenges impact the water sector.

Issue 1: Weak water resource management threatens the access and reliability of water services

Weak watershed protection, poor regulation of raw water use, and limited monitoring threaten the sustainability of water services. Rapid urbanization, deforestation, and catchment encroachment are accelerating degradation, while climate change is increasing seasonal variability and flood risks. Without urgent investment in integrated water resource management, the sustainability of current systems and the potential for future growth are at risk.

Issue 2: Aging infrastructure and inadequate Operation and Maintenance (O&M) practices

Inadequate operations and maintenance practices lead to a high failure rate of water infrastructure. This traps water service providers in a vicious cycle of poor service, low revenue, limited investments, and worsening infrastructure.

Issue 3: Insufficient investments in the Water sector.

Reliance on donors leaves the sector vulnerable to changing donor priorities. This weakens the government's ability to plan and execute long-term, strategic investments. The lack of a dedicated budget line and a weak environment for private sector involvement further limit financing options.

Issue 4: Limited coordination curtails the effectiveness and sustainability of WASH interventions

Fragmentation among sector agencies and limited cooperation with development partners led to disorganised planning and execution. This is worsened by an over-dependence on short-term projects, which are often driven by immediate needs rather than strategic goals. Efforts tend to be reactive and fragmented without a unified long-term vision. While such projects may provide temporary relief, they do not address the systemic issues that hinder the transformation of the WASH sector.

Issue 5: Sector inefficiencies and capacity gaps constrain performance

Key water utilities and service providers in Sierra Leone could operate more efficiently. High Non-Revenue Water (NRW) rates (60 percent for GVWC and 30 percent for SALWACO), along with low collection efficiency, limit service expansion. The core issues are insufficient institutional capacity and limited investment in human and resource development for system strengthening.

Issue 6: Cross cutting matters

Cross-cutting issues in Sierra Leone's water sector are systemic challenges that affect service delivery, sustainability, and equity across the country. Gender inequality and social inclusion gaps limit the participation of women, persons with disabilities, and vulnerable communities in water governance and access to services, while poverty and high connection costs prevent many households from securing safe and reliable water.

2. Vision, Goals and Targets: Sierra Leone's Water Compact

To address these challenges, the government of Sierra Leone launched the National Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene Sector Development Plan (NWASHSDP) 2025–2035, which provides a ten-year framework to realign sector governance, funding, and service delivery. Its vision is:

“A water-secure and sanitation-safe Sierra Leone through efficient and resilient water institutions by 2035.”

Drawing on this strategic vision, Sierra Leone commits to achieving water security for its entire population of 8.6 million people, focusing on four interconnected goals:

- 1. Enhancing water resource management and achieving 90% (Medium Term National Development Plan 2024 – 2030) access to water by 2030.**
- 2. Eliminating open defecation and achieving 76% (Medium Term National Development Plan 2024 to 2030) access to sanitation and its management while improving access to hygiene by 2030.**
- 3. Institutional strengthening and capacity building for all water sector institutions.**
- 4. Improving water, sanitation, and hygiene sector financing.**

These goals align with the two critical pillars of the World Bank Group's Mission: “Water for a water-secure future”, namely Water for People and Water for the planet. Sierra Leone is also analyzing its irrigation and agriculture transformation plan, which will add goals on the Water for Food pillar of the Mission Water and draw convergence with the World Bank Group's Mission AgriConnect.

Pillar I – Water for People: Under this pillar, priority is placed on expanding equitable access to safe, affordable, and reliable water supply, sanitation, and hygiene services. Key commitments include accelerating urban and rural water supply investments, eliminating open defecation, strengthening sanitation value chains, improving hygiene outcomes, and prioritizing WASH in schools, health facilities, and vulnerable communities.

Pillar III – Water for the Planet: This pillar focuses on protecting and restoring water-related ecosystems. Commitments include strengthening water resources management, protecting critical catchments, improving water quality monitoring, regulating abstraction and pollution, and scaling nature-based solutions to protect the Western Area Peninsula National Park and enhance climate resilience. Sierra Leone is further committed to restoring degraded river basins and institutionalising basin-level governance.

Table 1: Sierra Leone Water Compact - Targets

Pillar	Commitment Area	Baseline (Year)	2030 Target
National WASH Services	Water access	63% (2024)	Achieve 90% access to at least basic water services nationwide
	Sanitation access	32% (2024)	Achieve 76% access to at least basic sanitation nationwide
	Hygiene access	12% (2024)	Achieve 35% access to at least basic hygiene services nationwide
Water Resources Management	Transboundary cooperation	0 (2024)	Establish and operationalize 2 transboundary basin authorities (Moa Makona and Great Scarcies)
	Watershed protection	10 ha (2024)	Protect and legally enforce 3,500 ha of priority buffer zones, focusing on Western Area Peninsula National Park
	River basin restoration	0 (2024)	Implement ecohydrological restoration in 2 critically polluted basins (Taia Pampana and Rokel)
	Basin governance	0 (2024)	Create and operationalize 5 Basin Boards
	Institutional decentralisation	2 offices (2024)	Operationalize 1 additional regional WRM office (Kenema)
	Sustainable financing	USD 3 million (2024)	Mobilize USD 10 million through the Western Area Peninsula Water Fund
WASH in Schools	Safe water access	39% (2023)	Provide at least basic water services to 60% of schools
	Safe sanitation	49% (2023)	Provide at least basic sanitation to 70% of schools
	Hygiene services	22% (2023)	Ensure 50% of schools have functional handwashing facilities with soap

Pillar	Commitment Area	Baseline (Year)	2030 Target
WASH in Healthcare Facilities	Safe water access	57% (2024)	Provide at least basic water services to 80% of healthcare facilities
	Safe sanitation	45% (2024)	Provide at least basic sanitation services to 70% of healthcare facilities
	Hygiene services	22% (2024)	Ensure 50% of healthcare facilities have functional handwashing facilities with soap
	Waste management	66% (2024)	Ensure 80% of healthcare facilities have safe healthcare waste management systems
Environmental Services	Solid waste management	23% (2018)	Ensure 75% of solid waste is safely managed nationwide

3. Priority Investment Description

The compact roadmap outlines five key actions to realign institutional performance, expand service delivery, and secure sustainable financing. Priority action 1-3 aligns with Pillar 1 (water for people), while 4 and 5 align with Pillar 3 (water for planet).

Priority action 1: Strengthen Institutional Capacity and Improve WASH Service Delivery Efficiency

This action emphasises a comprehensive capacity assessment to strengthen water institutions at all levels. It supports the Ministry of Water Resources and Sanitation (MWRS) in fulfilling its mandates through targeted technical assistance, institutional and human capacity building, and improved planning and regulatory tools. It also highlights the importance of clarifying institutional roles, improving sector coordination, and building long-term capacity to strengthen performance-based management, procurement, financial management, and monitoring and evaluation. Local councils, particularly in rapidly growing secondary cities such as Kenema, Makeni, Bo, and Port Loko, will receive support to enhance decentralised service delivery and oversight. This priority will improve service delivery performance, customer engagement, and promote cost-recovery.

Priority action 2: Coordination among key government actors and development partners to increase sector financing and related developmental impacts.

To address fragmentation, this initiative will formalize inter-agency coordination and reorganize the Sector Coordination Committee to include local governments, development partners, and civil society groups. A standardized WASH information system will be established to support integrated planning and investment decisions. The strategy will also promote diversified funding sources through increased fiscal transfers, improved revenue generation by service providers, and public-private partnerships.

Priority Action 3: Invest in Inclusive Sanitation and Hygiene Services with a Gender-responsive Approach and Priority for WASH in Schools and Healthcare Facilities.

Scaled investment will prioritize household and institutional sanitation infrastructure, including the construction of fecal sludge treatment facilities. The plan encourages market-based sanitation approaches and partnerships with the private sector to ensure hygiene products are accessible in rural and underserved urban areas. Behaviour change campaigns will target cholera and diarrhoea hotspots in the Western Area, Pujehun, Port Loko, Tonkolili, and Kambia. Sanitation facilities will be designed to address the needs of women and girls.

Priority Action 4: Safeguard Water Resources and Expand Urban and Rural Water Supply

This initiative aims to safeguard key watersheds, including the Western Area Peninsula and Upper Moa Basin, and to develop resilient urban water systems. There is a need for a climate-aware water resource monitoring system to enhance forecasting and adaptation strategies. Investments in this effort will focus on increasing the availability and reliability of water supplies, especially in rapidly expanding urban areas.

Priority Action 5: Strengthen Solid Waste Management

This initiative addresses the growing problem of solid waste, especially in urban and peri-urban areas. It will support community-based waste collection, improve waste transport logistics, and invest in engineered landfills or transfer stations in cities like Freetown, Makeni, Port Loko, Bo, and Kenema, especially on flood-prone and densely populated areas. The plan also establishes clear policies and regulations to promote waste segregation, recycling, and public-private partnerships. These efforts will be complemented by public awareness campaigns to encourage behavior change and increase accountability in solid waste management.

4. Planned Activities and Costs

Overall, approximately \$1 billion (approximately \$100 million annually) is estimated to be spent on sector interventions to achieve the goals of this Compact (see roadmap). The highest expenditure in the service delivery cluster is expected to be in urban and rural water supply, at \$711 million. Capacity development, which remains the backbone of transforming the sector, will require the least cost, at \$17 million. Appendix 1 (programmatic outlook) outlines the cost implications of implementing the Compact.

The activities in the Compact are guided by NASHSDP and align with the Medium-Term National Development Plan (2024–2030), the African Union Agenda 2063, and SDG 6. Achieving its goals requires strong political leadership and coordinated support from development partners and the private sector to ensure a water-secure and sanitation-safe Sierra Leone.

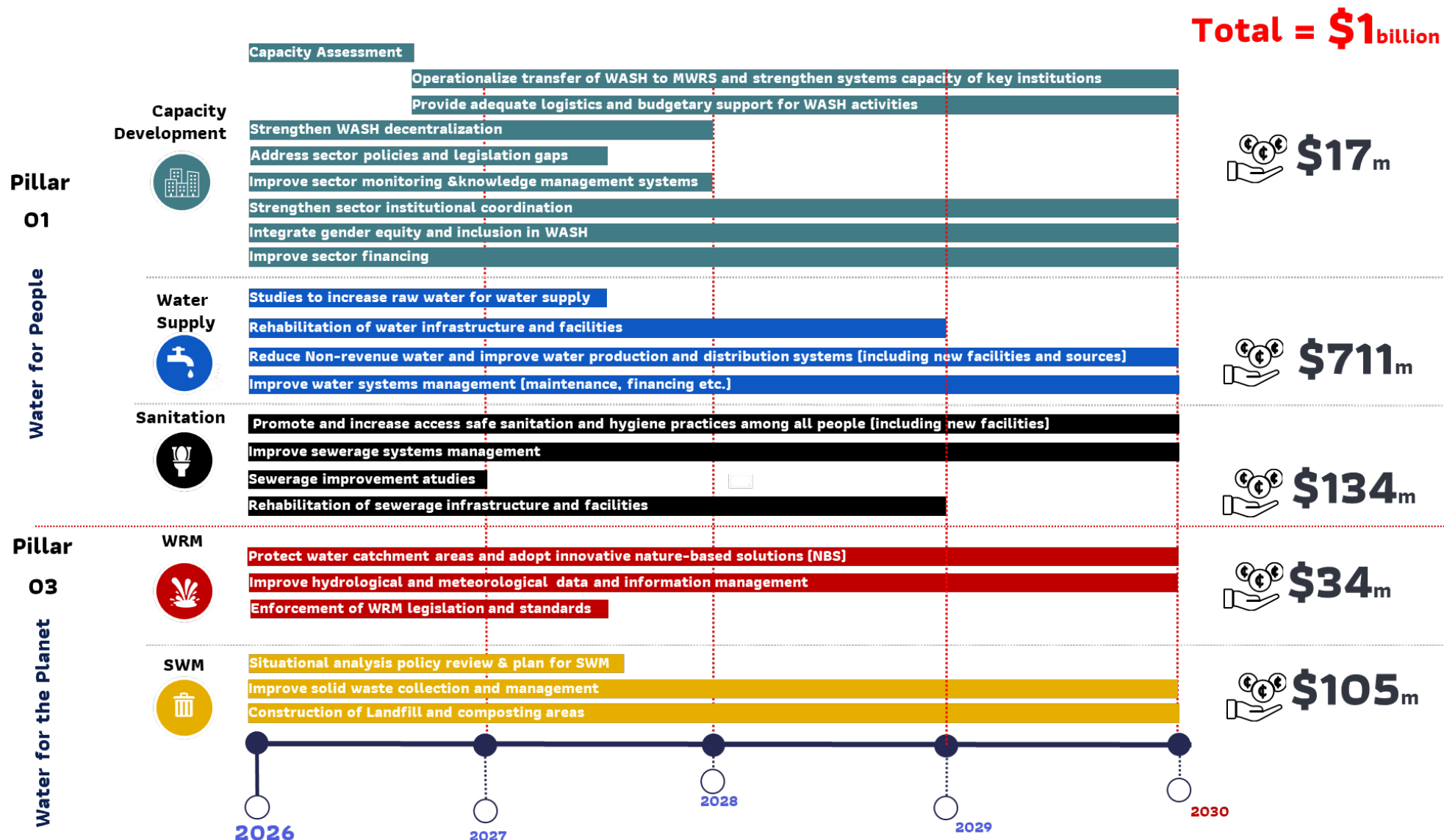
This National Water Compact represents Sierra Leone’s collective commitment to action by 2030. By aligning national priorities with the Mission Water framework, the Compact provides a credible platform for reform, investment, and results that improve lives, protect ecosystems, and strengthen resilience.

Table 2: Proposed financing

Component	Total cost (US\$)	Source of funding		
		GoSL	Dev. Finance Agencies	Others
Capacity development	17 million	10%	80%	10%
Water Supply (Urban and Rural)	711 million	10%	80%	10%
Sanitation – (Sewerage and Hygiene)	134 million	10%	80%	10%
Water Resources Management	34 million	10%	80%	10%
Sanitation – (Solid Waste)	105 million	10%	80%	10%
	1 billion	100 million	800 million	100 million

In 2022, the total WASH budget allocation was approximately US\$19 million, representing 9 percent of the national budget. This limited allocation underscores the sector’s constrained domestic investment. The water sector relies heavily on external financing, which accounts for over 70 percent of the WASH budget.

5. Water Compact Roadmap



Appendix 1- Programmatic Outlook

Thematic Area	Proposed strategy	Indicative Activities	Total Cost (US\$m)	Recurrent (US\$m)	Capital (US\$m)	Year				
						2026	2027	2028	2029	2030
SERVICE DELIVERY INTERVENTIONS										
Urban Water Service in Freetown and Western Area	(1) Increase raw water for water supply	(i) Prepare investment plan for GVWC	2.00	2.00	0.00	2.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
		(ii) Feasibility studies and design of raw water system	2.00	2.00	0.00	1.00	1.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
		(iii) Dam studies and construction in the Western Area	262.00	0.00	262.00	32.00	50.00	60.00	60.00	60.00
	(2) Improve water production and distribution system	(i) Construction of water treatment plants for Freetown & Western Areas.	25.00	0.00	25.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00
		(ii) Construction of water transmission system for Freetown & Western Areas.	13.00	0.00	13.00	3.00	3.00	2.00	2.00	3.00
		(iii) Rehabilitation, upgrading and expansion existing water systems, especially the distribution system	25.00	0.00	25.00	7.00	7.00	6.00	5.00	0.00
	(3) Implement measures to reduce non-revenue water	(i) Installation of bulk meters on all urban water systems	4.00	4.00	0.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	0.00
		(ii) Installation of zonal meters and customer meters for consumers on a flat rate	4.00	4.00	0.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	0.00
		(iii) Establish DMA and water loss reduction programs	4.00	4.00	0.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	0.00
Urban Water Supply by SALWACO	(1) Increase water supply	(i) Design and construction of a gravity water system	75.00	0.00	75.00	20.00	20.00	20.00	15.00	0.00
		(ii) Network extension to unserved areas.	5.00	0.00	5.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
		(iii) Feasibility studies and design of Water supply system	6.00	0.00	6.00	3.50	2.50	0.00	0.00	0.00
		(iv) Water supply system construction Koidu, Kamakwe, Koindu, Pendemdu, Potoru, Port Loko, Lunsar, Mile 91, Zimmi, Rutile, etc.	250.00	0.00	250.00	50.00	50.00	50.00	50.00	50.00
		(v) Rehabilitation, upgrading and expansion of urban systems, especially the distribution system	10.00	0.00	10.00	3.00	3.00	3.00	1.00	0.00
	(2) Implement measures to reduce non-revenue water	(i) Installation of bulk meters on all urban water systems	7.00	0.00	7.00	2.00	3.00	1.00	1.00	0.00
		(ii) Installation of zonal meters and customer meters for consumers on a flat rate	2.00	0.00	2.00	1.00	1.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
		(iii) Establish DMA and water loss reduction programs	4.00	0.00	4.00	2.00	2.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Rural Water Supply Local Councils	(1) Provide new water facilities in underserved and unserved rural areas and small towns	(i) Institutionalize Local Council-wide water supply planning through collaboration with SALWACO to improve service to all	0.60	0.60	0.00	0.15	0.15	0.15	0.15	0.00
		(ii) Strengthening water planning, budgeting and monitoring and performance reporting at the Local Council level	4.00	0.00	4.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	0.00
		(iii) Provision of water facilities and accompanying software activities to meet demand between 2025 and 2035	0.75	0.00	0.75	0.15	0.15	0.15	0.15	0.15
	(2) Institute an appropriate mechanism	(i) Mainstream asset management planning to inform planning on replacement/major rehabilitation of water facilities	1.20	1.20	0.00	0.30	0.30	0.30	0.30	0.00

Thematic Area	Proposed strategy	Indicative Activities	Total Cost (US\$m)	Recurrent (US\$m)	Capital (US\$m)	Year				
						2026	2027	2028	2029	2030
	for the rehabilitation, operation and maintenance of existing facilities (3) develop and operationalize a nationwide water safety planning	(ii)Major rehabilitation and replacement of rural and small towns' water facilities	4.00	0.00	4.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	0.00
		iii. Enforce the one-year post-implementation support on all projects	0.10	0.10	0.00	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.02
		(iv)Develop and implement a water safety planning in line with the national drinking water management framework	0.40	0.40	0.00	0.10	0.10	0.10	0.10	0.00
Basic Sanitation & Hygiene Service	(1) Promote safe sanitation and hygiene practices among all people;	(i) Implementation and Scaling Up of CLTS & Urban CLTS to eliminate ODF and provide access to basic sanitation in institutions and public spaces.	80.00	0.00	80.00	16.00	16.00	16.00	16.00	16.00
		(ii) Embark on ODF declaration and implement activities with a focus on climbing the sanitation ladder and consolidation of hygienic conditions, continuously undertaken in all ODF communities.	15.00	15.00	0.00	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00
		(ii) Assess, adopt and implement a framework for PPP on hand washing with soap	5.00	5.00	0.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
		(iii)Monitor implementation of the PPP framework on handwashing with soap at the local council and Chiefdom level.	5.00	5.00	0.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
	(2) Improve Sewerage Systems Management	(i) Studies and rehabilitation of the existing Sewerage system in Freetown	5.50	2.00	3.50	1.50	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
		(ii) Implementation of WWTP/Faecal Sludge treatment facilities	23.00	0.00	23.00	3.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00
	(3) Improve Solid Waste Management	(i) Review of policies, solid waste situational analysis and plan for solid waste management	2.00	2.00	0.00	1.00	1.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
		(ii) Construction of Hastings Landfill Site (2500tons/day)	90.00	0.00	90.00	0.00	0.00	30.00	30.00	30.00
		(iii) Construction of MRF/Composting Areas (200tons/day)	5.00	0.00	5.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	5.00
		(iv) Provision of basic minimum solid waste management services (including tools and equipment, both in urban and rural areas, with a focus on reduction, re-use, recycling, and recovery as well as cost-recovery	7.50	7.50	0.00	1.50	1.50	1.50	1.50	1.50
CROSS-CUTTING INTERVENTIONS										
Water Resources Management	(1)Enhance the implementation of existing regulations on WRM	(i) Assess and review existing water use and groundwater drilling regulations	0.80	0.80	0.00	0.40	0.40	0.00	0.00	0.00
		(ii) Provide capacity building support to NWRMA and EPA to monitor and enforce permit conditions on raw water	0.60	0.60	0.00	0.30	0.30	0.00	0.00	0.00
		(iii) Establishment of a Dam Safety Unit	2.20	2.20	0.00	2.00	0.20	0.00	0.00	0.00
		(iv) Develop guidelines and regulations for dam safety (including operating rules for floods and evacuation plans)	0.20	0.20	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.20	0.00	0.00
		(v) An effective water resource assessment and monitoring system in place and operational	12.00	12.00	0.00	5.00	5.00	2.00	0.00	0.00

Thematic Area	Proposed strategy	Indicative Activities	Total Cost (US\$m)	Recurrent (US\$m)	Capital (US\$m)	Year				
						2026	2027	2028	2029	2030
	(2)Watershed and catchment protected against deforestation and other human environmental problems	(i) Prepare national and river basins IWRM plans	5.10	5.10	0.00	1.70	1.70	1.70	0.00	0.00
		(ii) Establish River Basin Offices and Boards with adequate office accommodation, logistics and budgetary support	3.25	3.25	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.25	1.00	1.00
		(iii) Facilitate and formulate L.I. on buffer zone policy	0.20	0.20	0.00	0.10	0.10	0.00	0.00	0.00
		(iv)Develop a strategic policy framework for rainwater harvesting	0.20	0.20	0.00	0.20	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
		(vi)Develop a water conservation, irrigation, and flood reduction strategy to strengthen the link between IWRM and Climate Change Adaptation	0.40	0.40	0.00	0.20	0.20	0.00	0.00	0.00
		(vii) Protect water catchment areas	1.00	1.00	0.00	0.20	0.20	0.20	0.20	0.20
		(3 Improve hydrological and meteorological data and information management	(i) Support the setup, rehabilitation, and upgrade of hydrometric and hydrogeological networks, as well as introduce new technologies for data collection and analysis	6.75	5.25	1.50	2.50	2.00	1.25	1.00
		(ii) Strengthen human and technical capacities for data analysis and archiving	0.50	0.50	0.00	0.10	0.10	0.10	0.10	0.10
	(4) Strengthen water quality monitoring and data assessment	(iii) Initiate nationwide monitoring of groundwater resources and their occurrence	0.60	0.60	0.00	0.40	0.20	0.00	0.00	0.00
	Sector Capacity Development Programme	(1)Strengthen systems and logistical capacity of key national, local and chiefdom-level water sector institutions to perform roles effectively and ensure sustainable delivery of water, sanitation and hygiene services	(i) Institutional capacity assessment of MWRS, SLEWRC, GVWC, SALWACO and NWRMA	0.50	0.50	0.00	0.50	0.00	0.00	0.00
(ii) Institutional strengthening programs - trainings (on Utility Management, Billing, Project Management) and development of a strategic plan for SALWACO, review of policies and strategies			1.60	1.60	0.00	0.00	0.40	0.40	0.40	0.40
(iii) Provide adequate logistics and budgetary support for WASH activities			2.80	2.80	0.00	0.00	0.80	0.80	0.80	0.40
(iv) Build an office unit to house the water sector Ministry and related institutions (Water House)			3.00	0.00	3.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	0.00	0.00
(2)Strengthen human resource capacity of key national, local and chiefdom-level water sector institutions to perform roles effectively and ensure sustainable delivery of water, sanitation and hygiene services		(i) Undertake a staffing audit for a comprehensive understanding of sector human resource gaps	0.20	0.20	0.00	0.00	0.05	0.05	0.05	0.05
		(ii) Strengthening community skills for design, construction and O&M of both sanitation and hygiene facilities in rural as well as urban settings.	0.25	0.25	0.00	0.05	0.05	0.05	0.05	0.05
		(iii) Provide training on water safety planning, water quality testing, sanitation system design, and operation and maintenance of water supply systems.	0.15	0.15	0.00	0.00		0.05	0.05	0.05
		(iv) Improve the visibility of the MWRS by developing a functional website for the MWRS and populating it with the requisite sector documents (policies, strategies, legal frameworks) and engagement.	0.10	0.10	0.00	0.10	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
(3) Strengthen sector institutional coordination		(i) Operationalization of the transfer of the WASH mandate from the MoH to the MWRS	0.20	0.20	0.00	0.10	0.05	0.05	0.00	0.00
		(ii) Establish a development partners coordination platform to know who is doing what, where and when.	0.10	0.10	0.00	0.05	0.05	0.00	0.00	0.00

Thematic Area	Proposed strategy	Indicative Activities	Total Cost (US\$m)	Recurrent (US\$m)	Capital (US\$m)	Year				
						2026	2027	2028	2029	2030
		(iii) Ensure compliance with the Sierra Leone government's institutional service-level agreement (SLA) for all implementing development partners.	0.10	0.10	0.00	0.05	0.05	0.00	0.00	0.00
		(iv) Ensure a functioning inter-ministerial platform for water sector planning and development.	0.10	0.10	0.00	0.020	0.020	0.020	0.020	0.020
		(v) Institutionalize monthly sector working group meetings	0.06	0.06	0.00	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01
		(v) Address overlapping regulatory functions that blur clarity in responsibilities and accountability	0.10	0.10	0.00	0.05	0.05	0.00	0.00	0.00
	(4) Strengthen decentralization of WASH governance, policies and legislation	(i) Streamlining Ministerial mandates and oversight at the sub-national level	0.30	0.30	0.00	0.150	0.150	0.00	0.00	0.00
		(ii) Advocate and acquire a dedicated budget disbursement line for WASH at the sub-national level	0.10	0.10	0.00	0.05	0.05	0.00	0.00	0.00
		(iii) Finalize the update of the National Water Sector Policy	0.20	0.20	0.00	0.10	0.10	0.00	0.00	0.00
		(iv) Improve and enhance the enforcement of the Water sector legislation and standards	0.04	0.04	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.040
Finance	(1) Periodic review of urban water tariffs to reflect full operation and maintenance costs of service delivery	(i) Carry out quarterly review of water tariffs in accordance with SLEWC's automatic adjustment formulae	0.75	0.75	0.00	0.15	0.15	0.15	0.15	0.15
	(2) Attract private sector financing for investment and operation, and maintenance of water services	(ii) Implement a framework on private sector participation in the water sector, including financing (BOO, BOT, etc.)	0.50	0.50	0.00	0.10	0.10	0.10	0.10	0.10
	(3) Create a mechanism for financing capital maintenance expenditure for rural and small-town systems	(iii) Appraisal and adoption of a financing mechanism for capital maintenance	0.25	0.25	0.00	0.05	0.05	0.05	0.05	0.05
Knowledge Management, and M&E.	(1) support research, dissemination and discussion of research results on key issues affecting water and sanitation service delivery	(i) Provide adequate resources for sector learning platforms and extend learning alliance platforms to the regional levels	0.80	0.80	0.00	0.20	0.20	0.20	0.20	0.00
		(ii) Provide support for research on sector issues	1.00	1	0.00	0.20	0.20	0.20	0.20	0.20
	(2) develop and operationalize a national M&E system to track sector progress and contribute to the annual	(i) Set up a national M&E coordination group for the sector with clear terms of reference	0.30	0.30	0.00	0.10	0.10	0.10	0.00	0.00
		(ii) Technical Assistance to PPMED-MSWR to develop a sector M&E plan, strategy and system and to report on agreed sector indicators across all sub-sectors;	0.60	0.60	0.00	0.20	0.20	0.20	0.00	0.00

Thematic Area	Proposed strategy	Indicative Activities	Total Cost (US\$m)	Recurrent (US\$m)	Capital (US\$m)	Year				
						2026	2027	2028	2029	2030
Gender, Equity and Inclusion	GSGDA update	(iii) Set up and adequately resource M&E units at GVWC, SALWACO and NRRMA to provide regular updates on agreed sector indicators.	0.30	0.30	0.00	0.10	0.10	0.10	0.00	0.00
		(iv) Monitor the implementation of the activities outlined in the NWASHSDP to inform policy	0.50	0.50	0.00	0.10	0.10	0.10	0.10	0.10
		(v) Design and implementation of framework for collaborating with MLGCA in WASH delivery	0.10	0.10	0.00	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.00
		(vi) Rolling out an M&E system for all local councils	1.30	1.30	0.00	0.50	0.20	0.20	0.20	0.20
	(3) empower both sexes to appreciate their complementary roles in water and sanitation service delivery.	(i) Carry out gender assessment studies across all levels of the water sector every four years	0.05	0.05	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.05
		(ii) Facilitate signing of MoU, including risks and sanctions on SWAP	0.05	0.05	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
		(iii) Provide targeted training programs for women in technical skills, leadership, and management.	0.15	0.15	0.00	0.03	0.03	0.03	0.03	0.03
		(iv) Establish mentorship programs to support women's career advancement in the WASH sector.	0.20	0.20	0.00	0.100	0.10	0.00	0.00	0.00
		(v) Include gender-specific indicators in data collection and analysis to track progress and identify gaps.	0.15	0.15	0.00	0.030	0.030	0.030	0.030	0.030
		(vi) Enforce existing standards of WASH facility construction in institutions and public spaces to ensure that they are safe, accessible and culturally appropriate	0.25	0.25	0.00	0.05	0.05	0.05	0.05	0.05
		US\$	1,000	101	899	183	199	223	209	186
		AVERAGE \$	100	10	90					
		%		10	90					

