

1ST EDITION
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SPOTLIGHT ON
GLOBAL
FINANCING
FACILITY
IN SIERRA LEONE

...to enhance civil society engagement

RMNCAH+N
COALITION
SIERRA LEONE



HEALTH ALERT
SIERRA LEONE

- EVD** – Ebola Virus Disease
- FMoH** – Federal Ministry of Health
- GFF** – Global Financing Facility
- IC** – Investment Case
- MNDSR** – Material and Neonatal Deaths Surveillance and Response
- RBF** – Results-Based Financing
- RMNCAH+N** – Reproductive, Maternal, Newborn, Child and Adolescent Health plus Nutrition
- SDG** – Sustainable Development Goal

The GFF Spotlight is an advocacy and accountability tool aimed at improving civil society engagement, accountability and transparency of GFF implementation at country level. It is a product of content analysis and review of RMNCAH+N Strategy which serves as the Investment Case in Sierra Leone through guided analytical questions as well as secondary review of information related to Sierra Leone from <https://www.globalfinancingfacility.org/sierra-leone>

The Spotlight provides information about; Sierra Leone's RMNCAH+N Strategy, its

priority interventions, financing model, coordinating structure, proposed cost of implementing the strategy over a 5-year period, what the GFF Partnership committed to do and key recommendations for actions.

The Spotlight would be used to advocate and sensitize stakeholders including members of the Health Sector Coordinating Committee and multi sectoral coordination forum, civil society organizations, advocates, professional bodies, parliamentarians and relevant government agencies about the GFF in Sierra Leone.

- Sierra Leone has one of the highest maternal mortality rates globally.
- Teenage pregnancies are common and adolescent deaths constitute nearly 25 percent of the total maternal deaths in the country.
- More than half of all childhood deaths are preventable with access to key interventions.
- There are also persistent deficits in quality of care and efficiency of resource use in the health system.
- The 2013 Ebola outbreak further weakened the public health system and was associated with a 15-25 percent drop in RMNCAH+N service use.

ABOUT THE RMNCAH+N STRATEGY

The Sierra Leone National Reproductive, Maternal, Newborn and Child and Adolescent Health Strategy 2017 – 2021 is developed by the Ministry of Health and Sanitation as a roadmap and serves as the RMNCAH+N Investment Case to accelerate progress in achieving Sustainable Development Goals and in response to the problem itemized above.

Sierra Leone's RMNCAH+N strategy provides focused and prioritized set of high impact interventions for accelerating reduction of maternal, newborn, child and adolescent deaths. The strategy is aligned with national documents such as the Health Sector Recovery Plan and its global commitments, including the SDGs and the New Global Strategy for Women's, Children's and Adolescents' Health 2016-2030.

The RMNCAH+N Strategy has a goal of accelerating reduction of preventable deaths of women, children and adolescents and ensuring their health and well being.

PRIORITIES IDENTIFIED IN THE INVESTMENT CASE INCLUDE:

1

Strengthen health systems for effective provision of RMNCAH+N services, including by ensuring adequate, skilled and motivated human resources for health.

2

Strengthening leadership and governance at all levels

3

Ensuring availability of essential RMNCAH+N drugs, supplies and equipment; developing infrastructure; ensuring availability of a functioning emergency referral system.

4

Provision of safe blood at all Comprehensive Emergency Obstetric and Newborn Care facilities

5

Improve the quality of RMNCAH+N services at all levels of service delivery

6

Support implementation of a national RMNCAH+N quality improvement program and systematic quality improvement procedures, approaches and practices, with a special focus on emergency triage assessment and treatment, respectful maternity care, and Maternal Perinatal Death Surveillance Review (MPDSR).

7

Strengthen community systems for effective delivery of RMNCAH+N services by addressing sociocultural, geographical and financial barriers.

8

Implementing integrated community case management

9

Strengthen health information systems, monitoring, evaluation, and research for effective RMNCAH+N service delivery, and strengthen civil registration and vital statistics systems.

This strategy will promote integrated service delivery approach, multisector response and engagement with the private sector. For the governance and management, the strategy will be coordinated from the Ministry of Health and Sanitation via the Health Sector Coordinating Committee chaired by the Minister of Health and Sanitation. It has the overall responsibility for ensuring the implementation of the strategy. The strategy promotes a multisectoral response bringing in other sectors that impact on RMNCAH+N, as follows;

1

Health and in particular the RMNCAH+N sub sector will engage in partnership with key sectors impacting RMNCAH+N including education, food security and agriculture, social protection and economic empowerment, water and sanitation and the local government. As part of the strategy coordination and implementation approach, a multisectoral coordination forum at national level will be established.

2

Prioritized action plans for RMNCAH+N multisectoral interventions will be developed for joint implementation.

3

At district levels, the district councils will be tasked to establish or strengthen and use existing multisectoral forums to plan and implement prioritized multisectoral

FINANCING SIERRA LEONE'S PRIORITY INVESTMENTS

- The total cost for implementing this RMNCAH+N strategy for the five years is 544.9 Million USD.
- The total resource commitments for the country for the five years is 535.1 million USD, of which 209.2 Million USD were for RMNCAH+N and a further 288.7 Million categorized as cross cutting resources i.e. including but not limited to RMNCAH+N.
- Using the RMNCAH+N specific resource commitments and modelling figures based on assumptions on donor commitments over the 5 years of the implementation of the strategy, the country has an estimated resource gap of \$228 million USD.
- Partners that contribute to financing Sierra Leone's priorities as outlined in the strategy which served as the investment case include the GFF, Gavi, Global Fund, Partners in Health, UNICEF, USAID, World Bank, and the governments of Germany (KfW), Italy, Japan (JICA), and United Kingdom (DFID).

FIGURE 1: ALLOCATION OF FUND ACROSS INTERVENTION AREAS IN USD MILLIONS FOR 2017-2021

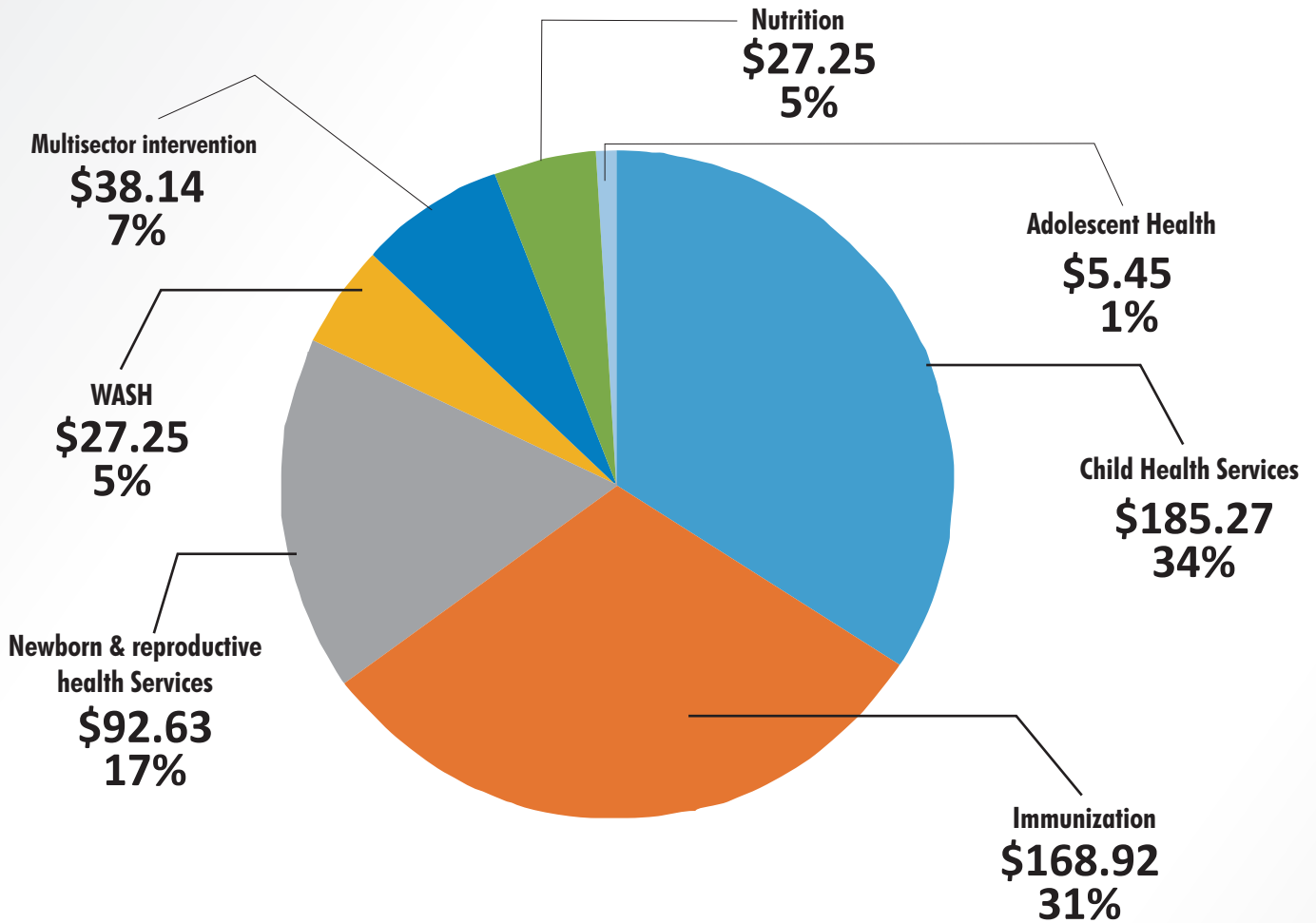


FIGURE 2: SHOWS DISTRIBUTION OF COST FOR 2017-2021 IN USD MILLIONS

YEAR	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	Total (USD)
AMOUNT	95.7m	106.4m	109.9m	113.8m	119.3m	544.9m

1

RMNCAH+N health care financing coalition to be formed as part of the implementation of this strategy to advocate to the Government of Sierra Leone towards increased resource allocation for RMNCAH+N as well as improved governance and accountability in the use of the available resources.

2

Use the ongoing process for development of the health care financing strategy to develop sustainable health care financing options. As part of the Global Financing Facility processes, the Government of Sierra Leone is in the process of developing health care financing strategy. It is recommended as part of that process that the country comes up with innovative solutions to

increase health care financing for RMNCAH+N response.

3

Mobilise development partners in alignment with the RMNCAH+N strategy to pre-commit resources. Despite the decreasing RMNCAH+N resources from development partners, donor funding is expected to continue to be the leading source of funding for implementing the RMNCAH+N strategy.

4

To increase the predictability of the resources, it is recommended that the Government uses the strategy to mobilise donors pre-commit their resources in alignment with the strategy.

GFF partnership has supported country leadership's commitment and developed a strategy to enhance investments and improve reproductive, maternal, newborn, child, and adolescent health and nutrition (RMNCAH-N) outcomes to help achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

The GFF partnership focuses on improving coordination and alignment between donors, ministries, and implementing partners in the health sector through the development of a prioritized and realistic implementation plan that accounts for available resources and capacity constraints.

The GFF works with the government of Sierra Leone to focus on mobilizing domestic financial resources for health

Enhancing the efficiency of the health system through strategic purchasing of services, supporting appropriate distribution of health facilities and staff, and improving quality of care.

To ensure long-term sustainability and possible scale-up of key interventions, the GFF supports the development of a health financing strategy to increase efficiency and domestic resources for the health sector.

The GFF provides technical support for monitoring the revenue impact of increased tobacco taxes, conducting analysis on potential efficiency gains in health financing, and refining results-based financing (RBF).

RBF will be piloted in two districts in 2019 and is expected to be instrumental in providing financing to the front lines for maternal, child, and adolescent health services. The RBF pilot is also expected to help ensure that the distribution of health services better reflects the needs in Sierra Leone.

Furthermore, support will be provided to improve decentralized public financial management by building the capacity of district health management teams to use health data for effective decision making.

Sourced from <https://www.globalfinancingfacility.org/sierra-leone>

Facilitate meetings and dialogue with relevant senior government officials, GFF Liaison and focal officers and development partners to ascertain the contribution of GFF partnership in improving coordination and alignment as well as immobilizing domestic financial resources for health.

1

2

Use the GFF spotlight to educate and sensitize civil society organizations and relevant stakeholders about GFF partnership in Sierra Leone

Use the GFF Spotlight to improve access to information and promote accountability for the GFF in Sierra Leone

3

4

Use the GFF spotlight to facilitate meetings to ascertain the level of progress in the implementation of the Sierra Leone RMNCAH+N strategy (Investment Case).

Use the GFF spotlight to facilitate meetings to review implementation, key challenges and financial commitment of partners supporting the government's targeted interventions in the Sierra Leone investment case.

5

6

Use the GFF spotlight to facilitate meetings to ascertain the level of progress made by the Government of Sierra Leone in developing health care financing strategy.

Facilitate meetings with civil society leaders and young people to ascertain their level of participation in the Health Sector Coordinating Committee and multi sectoral coordination forum.

7

The RMNCAH+N Coalition in Sierra Leone is a platform of civil society organizations including young people and women groups committed to promoting civil society participation, engagement, accountability and transparency in the implementation of RMNCAH+N including GFF in Sierra Leone. Its secretariat is hosted by Health

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