



MBSSE

Monthly Newsletter

February
2026 Edition

Transforming Education for Every Child in Sierra Leone



Strengthening Education Systems Across Sierra Leone

- National School Feeding Programme Receives Major Support
- Sierra Leone's Digital Learning Strategy Gains Global Recognition
- Government Protects Integrity of WASSCE Registration
- Local Innovation Expands Digital Learning in Schools

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Sierra Leone Secures Major Support for School Feeding Programme



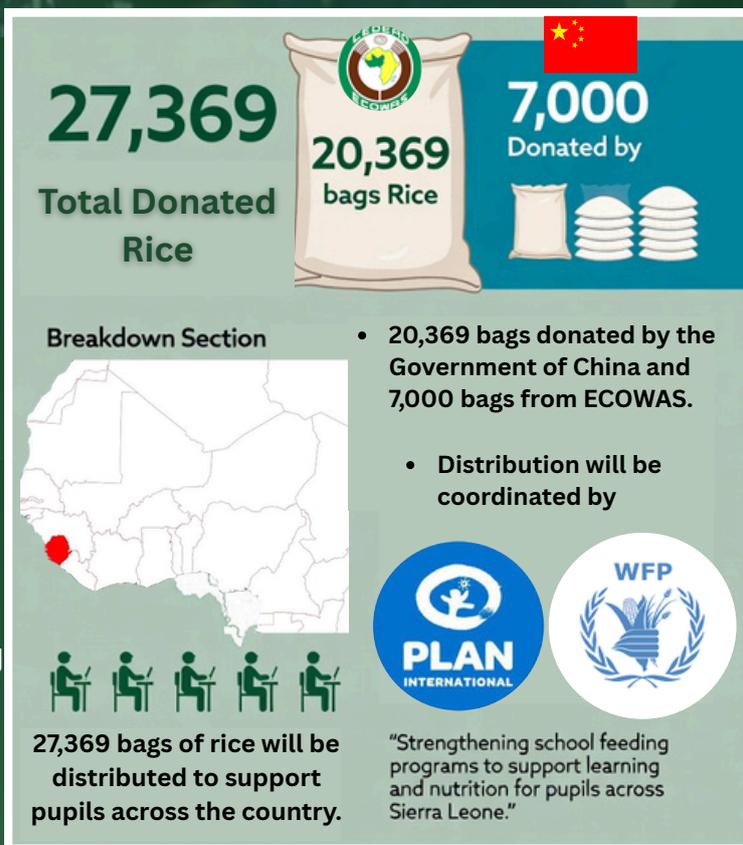
The Ministry of Basic and Senior Secondary Education has signed a landmark Memorandum of Understanding with development partners to strengthen Sierra Leone's National School Feeding Programme.

Under the agreement, 27,369 bags of rice will be distributed to support pupils across the country.

The support includes 20,369 bags donated by the Government of China and 7,000 bags from ECOWAS.

Distribution will be coordinated through key partners including Plan International, Women United for Progress, and the World Food Programme. Strong monitoring mechanisms involving civil society, the Anti-Corruption Commission, and the Fourth Estate will ensure transparency and accountability.

School feeding remains a vital pillar of the education agenda, helping improve attendance, concentration, and learning outcomes for thousands of pupils nationwide.



A well-fed child is a better-prepared learner.

Sierra Leone Recognised Globally for Digital Education Reforms

Sierra Leone's education reforms are gaining international recognition.



Global Dialogue on Digital Transformation

At a high-level global dialogue convened by the Global Partnership for Education (GPE), policymakers from 18 countries across Africa, Asia, Europe, and Latin America gathered to discuss the future of digital transformation in education systems. During the dialogue, Sierra Leone's National Digital Learning Strategy was presented as a forward-looking reform agenda designed to improve learning outcomes, strengthen teacher capacity, and expand access to quality education.

DISTINGUISHED SPEAKER

Conrad Sackey

Minister of Basic and Senior
Secondary Education
Republic of Sierra Leone

Transforming Education For A
Brighter Future

Date 4 February, 2026

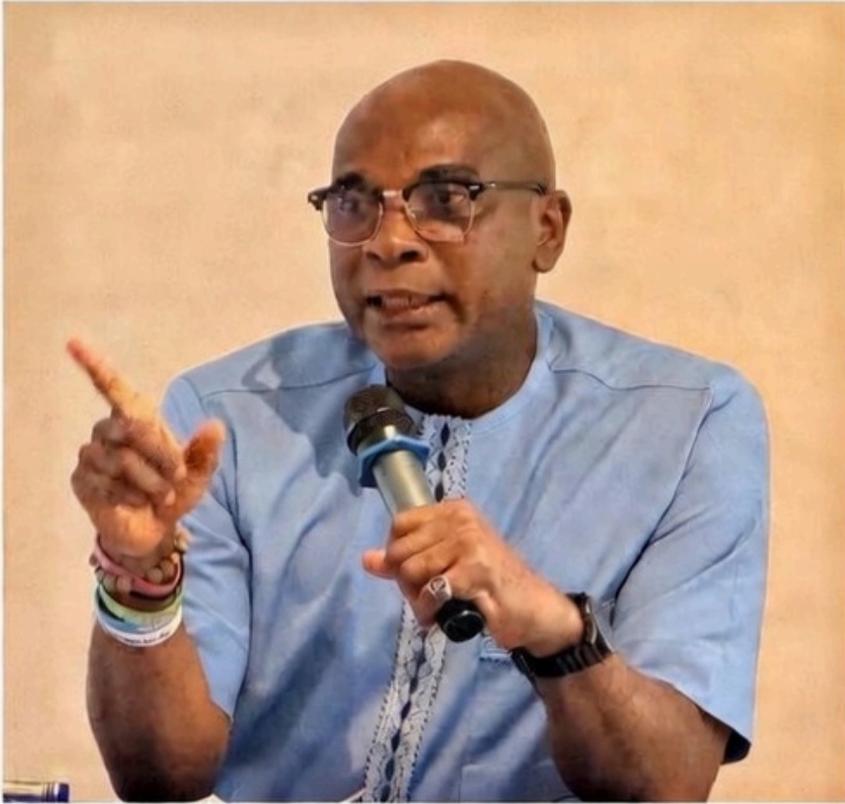
The strategy integrates digital tools across curriculum delivery, teacher development, assessment, and school management, ensuring technology supports real learning improvements.

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The dialogue further reinforced Sierra Leone's growing reputation as a credible reform leader and global partner in education transformation.

Government Strengthens WASSCE Registration Integrity

The Ministry has intensified measures to ensure transparency and accuracy in the registration of candidates for the 2026 West African Senior School Certificate Examination (WASSCE).



Following verification exercises, 140,000 candidates have been cleared to sit the examination. Schools initially uploaded 219,000 names, prompting a nationwide verification process to ensure only eligible candidates are registered.

Government has reaffirmed its commitment to pay examination fees for all legitimate candidates, but school leaders must confirm through a signed undertaking to prevent malpractice such as multiple registrations.

These measures aim to safeguard public resources and maintain the integrity of the national examination system.

Global Education Partners Visit Sierra Leone

The Ministry recently welcomed a high-level delegation from the Global Partnership for Education (GPE), alongside representatives from the British High Commission and UNICEF Sierra Leone.

The visit marked the first in-person GPE mission since 2019, signalling strong international confidence in Sierra Leone's education reform journey.

Discussions focused on sustainable education financing, learning outcomes, and system-wide transformation. Sierra Leone's Partnership Compact, launched in 2022, continues to be recognised globally as a model for collaborative reform.

Notably, Sierra Leone has become the first country to meet both top-up triggers under the Compact, demonstrating strong progress in budget execution and teacher allocation reforms.



The return of our global partners reflects growing confidence in Sierra Leone's reform journey and our collective determination to strengthen education for every learner.

Strengthening Accountability in the School Feeding Programme



The Ministry has reinforced accountability mechanisms in the national school feeding programme following an engagement with the World Food Programme (WFP).

Discussions focused on improving food quality standards, supply timelines, and digital monitoring tools to track deliveries and beneficiaries in real time.

School feeding continues to play a critical role in improving attendance, retention, and learning outcomes, particularly in underserved communities.

Beyond immediate improvements in food delivery, the Ministry is also working to strengthen long-term sustainability within the programme. By integrating digital tracking systems, improving supply chain monitoring, and reinforcing accountability at district and school levels, the government aims to ensure that resources are used efficiently and transparently. These reforms are designed not only to safeguard public trust but also to ensure that every meal served contributes to improved attendance, stronger concentration in classrooms, and better learning outcomes for pupils across Sierra Leone.

Evidence-Based Policy Partnership with J-PAL

The Ministry has launched a new collaboration with the Abdul Latif Jameel Poverty Action Lab (J-PAL) to strengthen evidence-based policymaking in Sierra Leone's education sector. The partnership will support government efforts to identify effective programmes, test innovative interventions, and scale solutions that improve learning outcomes. This collaboration marks an important step toward ensuring education reforms are guided by data, research, and measurable impact.



Tackling School Safety and Legal Challenges



Education leaders recently met with the Attorney General and the Ministry of Justice to address critical legal issues affecting schools. The discussions focused on land disputes involving schools, corruption, alumni conflicts, drug use, and violence within school communities. The collaboration reflects a whole-of-government approach to protecting learning environments and safeguarding pupils across the country.

Improving School Infrastructure and WASH Facilities

The Ministry's strategic engagement with The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

To view progress on school infrastructure in Bo District in focusing on completing WASH health facilities in supported schools to

improve health, safety, learning conditions, and access to safe water sanitation, especially for girls.



INNOVATION & TECHNOLOGY

Local Innovation Expands Digital Learning

The Ministry recently hosted the Easy STEM team, graduates of Fourah Bay College, who presented an innovative digital learning solution designed specifically for schools with limited electricity and internet connectivity. Their system combines tablets, portable servers, rechargeable battery packs, and offline educational content, enabling teachers and students to access learning materials anytime without requiring internet access. Already deployed in five districts, the initiative demonstrates the power of local engineering and youth-led innovation in solving real classroom challenges.





Orange Sierra Leone Explores Digital Education Partnership

The new CEO of Orange Sierra Leone paid a courtesy call on the leadership of the Ministry of Basic and Senior Secondary Education (MBSSE), marking an important step toward strengthening collaboration in the country's education sector.

During the engagement, both sides held constructive discussions on expanding digital learning opportunities for pupils and teachers nationwide. The conversation focused on how innovative technology solutions can help enhance teaching, improve learning outcomes, and strengthen connectivity in schools nationwide.

A key area of discussion was support for the implementation of the National Digital Learning Strategy, which aims to integrate technology more effectively into classrooms and ensure that learners have access to modern digital tools and resources.



COMMUNITY & EDUCATION IMPACT

11. Government Responds to Fire Incident at Nyapui Secondary School

Following a fire that destroyed a section of a boarding facility at Nyapui Secondary School of Excellence in Kenema, the Ministry delivered emergency support to affected pupils. Working alongside the National Disaster Derily Agency, relief items and learning materials were provided to ensure that education continues without disruption. The Ministry is also developing a national fire safety guide for schools and boarding homes to prevent future incidents.



Alumni Support Improves Learning Conditions

In a powerful demonstration of alumni support, the AAAA UK Chapter donated 150 desks and chairs to improve classroom conditions at a secondary school.

The contribution highlights the vital role alumni networks play in strengthening schools and supporting the delivery of quality education.



Celebrating Excellence in Education

Educators, students, and partners gathered at the National Education Champions Awards (NECA) to celebrate outstanding achievements in education.

The event recognised exceptional schools, teachers, and students, while also introducing a Resilience Award for learners with disabilities, reinforcing the nation's commitment to inclusive education.



AWARDS PRESENTED:
15



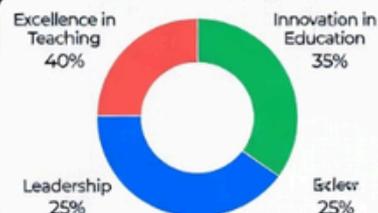
ATTENDEES:
500+



CERTIFICATES ISSUED:
25



AWARD CATEGORIES



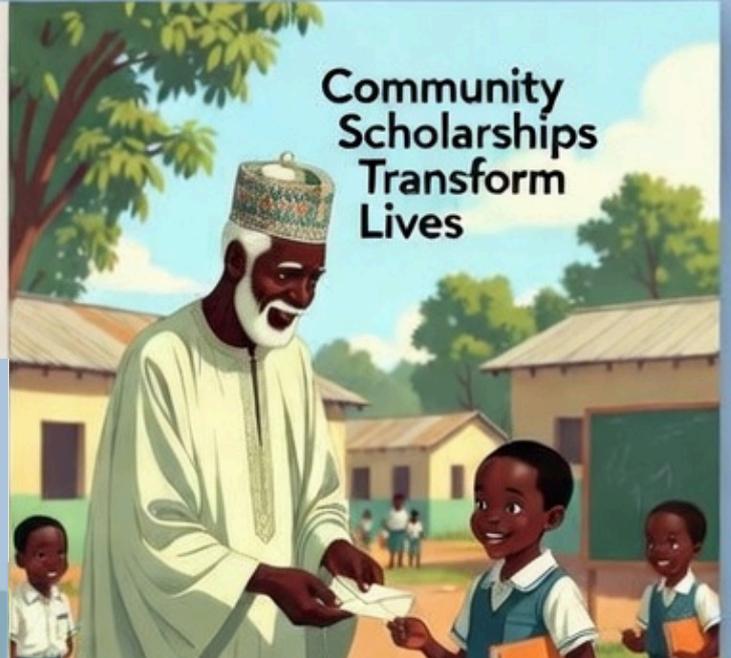
Promoting Inclusion for Children with Disabilities

The Ministry joined partners and families at the Enable the Children Programme Beach Outing, celebrating children living with disabilities.

The event highlighted Sierra Leone's commitment to ensuring equal opportunity, dignity, and access to education for every child, regardless of ability.



Community Scholarships Transform Lives



The Fula Progressive Union continues to support university students through its scholarship programme launched in 2020. The initiative has already produced its first group of graduates, demonstrating the impact of community-driven investments in education and national development.

Cultural Exchange Strengthens Global Learning

The Ministry joined the Confucius Institute to celebrate the Chinese New Year, highlighting strong cultural and educational ties between the two countries while promoting language learning and cultural understanding.



NGO Week Promotes Health and Partnership

Education leaders participated in the NGO Week Health Walk, organised by the Sierra Leone Association of Non-Governmental Organisations (SLANGO).

The event promoted healthy living while recognising the crucial role NGOs play in national development.

