

SIERRA LEONE

General Information

- Population: 5,835,664
- According to a 2009 estimate, 71.3% of the population is Muslim, 26.8% is Christian and 1.9% of the population is either animist or follows other religious beliefs.
- The vast majority of Sierra Leonean Christians are Protestants, of which the largest are Methodists and Evangelicals.
- Freetown the capital is the largest city and economic center. It was founded by slaves in the 19th century and is populated by their descendants.
- English is the official language, spoken at school, government administration and by the media.

Challenges

- Sierra Leone on Thursday declared a public health emergency over the outbreak, and said it would quarantine several areas for up to two months. Liberia has closed all of its schools and sent government workers on leave.
- Public Health Emergency: The head of the World Health Organization, Dr. Margaret Chan said the response so far to the epidemic was "woefully inadequate," and described the outbreak as "by far the largest ever in the nearly four-decade history of this disease." Sierra Leone's top Ebola doctor has died from the virus. There is also a shortage of trained health workers in Liberia, Sierra Leone and Guinea.
- About sixteen ethnic groups inhabit Sierra Leone, each with its own language and custom.
- Sierra Leone mines diamonds and is also among the largest producers of titanium and bauxite. The country has the third-largest natural harbor in the world. Despite exploitation of this natural wealth, 70% of its people live in poverty.

Prayer

- Rev. Phiri of the Reformed Church of Zambia, gave birth to 36 congregations with an average church attendance of over 600 people. The church was officially registered as the Christian Reformed Church of Sierra Leone (CRCSL) in February 2007. In just a few years, the church has expanded to over 60 churches and more than 5,500 members. Christian Reformed World Missions promotes the sovereignty of God as a basis for its guiding theology. See link below.

Reference

- <http://www.operationworld.org/sier>
- <http://allafrica.com/stories/201408020266.html>
- http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Religion_in_Sierra_Leone
- http://www2.crcna.org/pages/crwm_CRC_Sierra_Leone.cfm