

WP NEWS UPDATE

Patron: Lord Alton of Liverpool

www.waterloopartnership.co.uk

Autumn 2022

A difficult time for the world - especially those in Sierra Leone



• Keeping dry - orphans and vulnerable children in their new rain coats

Thank you for all your help

This has been a difficult year for most of the world's population and the people of Sierra Leone have been affected greatly in many ways. The impact of shortages and rising prices hit the poorest communities with greater impact than most of us could ever envisage.

The chair of WP in Waterloo wrote to us about some of the impact experienced: rising fuel costs created many queues at petrol stations; a scarcity of fuel increased petrol costs; commercial bike riders doubled their fares.

Children again had to walk long distances to school. Government workers were delayed when travelling and arrived late for work, reducing their work time and delaying service deliveries. Employees went for months without salaries.

Food prices increased; there was malnourishment, increased especially amongst children; power supplies were often only available on alternate days. Vermin and mosquitoes had been breeding at the rubbish site on the edge of the Freetown-Waterloo Highway and related illnesses increased.

Waterloo Partnership obviously cannot solve all these difficulties but we have been able to help the community greatly throughout the year.

This would not have been possible without the generosity and commitment of people like yourselves.

Your altruism has enabled us to help many people in so many ways. Our newsletter tells of just a few...

Smiling in the rain

During the 2021 to 2022 school year, Waterloo Partnership supported 57 orphaned and vulnerable children; providing them with uniforms, books, bags and essential food support.

Many children have been able to take their school certificate exams, enabling them to move forward with their education and progression through school.

Sierra Leone has a heavy rainy season, which lasts for months. We had a request for raincoats for the children, so they could be protected on their walk to school and then would be comfortable and dry in class whilst focusing on their education.

It was a pleasure to fund these projects and we thank our donors for their generosity.



• *Women working on the farmland funded by the Seeds and Tools donations: one of WP's most successful and long-lasting projects*

Female empowerment

One of the charity's projects in Waterloo is helping a group of female farmers, many of whom lost their husbands in the war and were forced to become the main breadwinners.

They had to learn to farm in the swamp areas around the town. The charity provides resources such as seeds, tools, wellington boots and farming advice. This project has made a significantly positive impact on their lives.

"The seeds and tools project has helped me and my family to live a better life as we generate income to provide food and basic medical help for the family." *Aminata – female farmer*

"This project is helpful as I am able to pay the school fees for my child and pay my house rent for the family" *Fatmata – female farmer*

Malaria prevention

The SL government, attempting to improve the environment, had Clean up Saturdays when rubbish was cleared and placed in a site on the edge of the Freetown-Waterloo highway.

Unfortunately, due to heat and moist conditions the mosquito larvae thrived and bred, leading to an increase in malaria.

WP funded a prevention plan: around 30 young people removed the debris from drains, allowing water to wash away the larvae, which only survives in stagnant water.

School graduation

It is with great joy that the charity received news that some of the Ebola orphans have now graduated from secondary school.

"Waterloo Partnership has helped me with my education by paying for my school fees and supplying me with uniform, shoes and books. They have also supplied me and my new family with food supplies. With my accounting background I would like to work in a bank. I wish to thank the Waterloo Partnership for their support towards my new family and life." *Abu Bakarr*



• *Beatrice, right, one of our former school pupils, recently celebrated her degree in Business Studies*

Well maintenance

The impact of having a clean water supply is immeasurable. Thanks to our donors, the cleaning, maintenance and chlorination of our six wells in Waterloo is done regularly, ensuring the water is kept as safe and pure as possible.

Emergencies

Throughout the year various emergencies occurred and requests were made to WP for help. We were in the fortunate position to be able to send money to assist people who had been injured during a tornado and those affected by fire and flooding.

None of this would have been possible without the extreme generosity and support of individual members and friends of Waterloo Partnership. Your help has been invaluable to the people of Waterloo and you have touched many lives with your love.

You can donate online via our website or Twitter and Facebook accounts.

www.waterloopartnership.co.uk

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