



PROJECT SHARE

SHARING HIV ACTIONS, RESULTS AND EXPERIENCES FOR DECISION

In Sierra Leone, where 40% of the population is under 15, HIV prevalence rose from 0.9% in 2002 to 1.4% in 2020, two-thirds of whom are women. Only less than a third (29%) of the 80,000 people living with HIV/AIDS in the country were on antiretroviral treatment in 2020 (UNAIDS Sierra Leone), a far cry from the 95% target set by the international community. Faced with these challenges, Sierra Leone is committed to improving the HIV response to accelerate the achievement of global HIV targets, and has already updated and developed various strategic and operational tools to guide the response, such as the National HIV Strategic Plan 2021-2025.

Therapeutic Solidarity & Initiatives for Health (Solthis) is an international NGO whose objective is to improve prevention and access to quality health care through health system strengthening in countries where it operates. In mid-2023, Solthis signed with the French Development Agency (AFD) Group a new multi-country grant for Partnerships to Improve the Health of Populations in West Africa. Within this grant is the Sharing HIV Actions, Results and Experiences for Decision (SHARE) Project in Sierra Leone.

Key Information



Project duration : 2 years (July 2023 – June 2025)



Beneficiaries:

International organizations, national authorities, HIV implementing partners (NETHIPS and other relevant CSOs), district health management teams (DHMTs), health care workers, support groups and recipients of care (RoCs)



Source of funding: AFD



Partners: NETHIPS, Ministry of Health (through the National HIV/AIDS Control Program).



Intervention areas: National and in seven Districts (Western Area Rural, Western Area Urban, Port Loko, Bombali, Tonkolili, Bo and Kenema).



OBJECTIVES

To influence the HIV response in the country through generation, documentation, dissemination, and advocacy for adoption/adaptation as well as use of knowledge from Solthis experiences on HIV service delivery and health systems strengthening at health facility and community levels. More specifically, the project will:

- Inform, highlight and influence decision makers on:
 - o The benefits of mixed strategies and comprehensive approach for Health care workers capacity building on HIV care
 - o The importance and impact of support groups supporting people living with HIV toward good adherence and care retention
- Promote enhanced and comprehensive approach for HCWs capacity building activities in Sierra Leone.
- Promote complementary support from health facilities and community toward HIV adherence and retention in care in Sierra Leone.



SOLTHIS EXPERIENCES CONSIDERED FOR KNOWLEDGE GENERATION

- o Empowering patients and Health care Workers for Comprehensive and Effective HIV Care I & II (EMPOWER I & II), June 2016-February 2022
- o Program for Strengthening Health Services and Systems I & II (PROSSAN I & II), 2019-May 2024
- o Global Fund New Funding Model 3 (NFM3) (2022- June 2024)



LESSONS LEARNING

COMPONENTS EXPLORED

- o **Service delivery:** Lessons learning process focusing on how Solthis capacity building approach to HIV care has contributed to improved quality of care for recipients of care.
- o **Community engagement:** Lessons learning process focusing on the role of Support Groups in promoting treatment adherence and retention of recipients of care.

