

Project Profile: HealthGrid Sierra Leone

1. HealthGrid Sierra Leone¹ (“HealthGRID”) is a USAID Global Development Alliance (“GDA”), led by a non-profit organization, RESOLVE. HealthGRID will install and maintain sustainable energy systems for 31 remote, off-grid, healthcare facilities in Sierra Leone. The energy systems will be based on solar/photovoltaic (“PV”) electricity generation equipment, which will be sized to meet the needs of each of the 31 health facilities (ranging from 5KWH to 10KWH). Each system will also have some excess capacity that will be available for off-take by host communities.
2. HealthGrid Sierra Leone commenced October 1, 2021 and has a two-year project term.
3. In collaboration with Orange Sierra Leone, HealthGrid will install and maintain internet connectivity equipment at each healthcare facility. Through a partnership with World Vision, HealthGrid will also support the improvement of WASH² services for the healthcare facilities that demonstrate the most significant needs.
4. A fundamental innovation of the “HealthGrid Methodology” is that it is designed to leverage the capabilities and competencies of partner mobile network operators (“MNOs”) to procure and install the energy and connectivity equipment and to provide effective long-term operations and maintenance (“O&M”) support for all of the installed equipment (energy, connectivity and WASH). Inadequate long-term O&M support has frequently led to declining performance of off-grid PV and WASH systems across sub-Saharan Africa and is also associated with diminished productive use applications of the systems in off-grid communities.
5. The basis of the HealthGrid sustainability plan, which will ensure the functioning of all systems well beyond the two-year term of the GDA, is an on-going commercially sustainable O&M contract between the health facilities and Orange Sierra Leone. Payment for the O&M contract will be arranged and secured via a dedicated “O&M Sustainability Fund” resourced by revenue streams internal to the HealthGrid model.
6. Implementation of HealthGrid Sierra Leone involves a robust coalition of partner organizations, including:
 - **USAID Mission for Guinea and Sierra Leone** is a key financial resource-provider for the GDA and is a co-creator of the HealthGrid Methodology.

¹ Previously known as “MicroUtilities for Community Health”.

² WASH stands for water, sanitation and hygiene and typically involves provision of clean water and sanitation equipment, systems and procedures.

- **RESOLVE**, with the support of its affiliates in Sierra Leone (ReGrow West Africa and Dalan Development Consultants), is serving as the “Prime” for GDA and is a key financial resource provider.
- **Orange Sierra Leone** will serve as the MNO responsible for procuring and installing the energy and connectivity equipment and for long-term O&M support for all of the equipment (energy, connectivity, and WASH); Orange Sierra Leone is also providing considerable in-kind contributions of skilled labor, management, and equipment to enable the execution of the GDA.
- **Gavi, The Vaccine Alliance** is a key financial resource-provider for the GDA as well as fundamental liaison support with the government of Sierra Leone and technical support to ensure that the installed systems meet the requirements for effective cold-chain systems. Gavi views healthcare facility electrification and internet connectivity as critical to the provision of vaccination services, which is particularly salient in the context of the current COVID-19 pandemic.
- **World Vision** is a key provider of technical expertise and financial resources, and will lead HealthGRID interventions for the improvement of water supply, sanitation, and hygiene services at the respective healthcare facilities.
- **Sierra Leone’s Ministry of Health and Sanitation** is the sponsor of the GDA on behalf of the government of Sierra Leone. The Ministry selected the off-grid healthcare facilities that will be served by the GDA and will provide ongoing coordination support with all relevant government ministries, departments and agencies.
- Additional technical and project delivery support is being provided by bechtel.org (the social enterprise of Bechtel Corporation) and **Chevron’s Partnership Initiatives for the Niger Delta Foundation**; legal support is being provided by **Pinsent Masons**; monitoring, evaluation and learning support is being provided by the **CDC Foundation** and **RESOLVE to Save Lives**.

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