

# FAST FACTS

## Waste Management and Plastic Recycling



Project Cluster  
**Energy, Environment, and  
Natural Resource  
Management**

Duration  
**September 2017 -  
March 2018**

Budget  
**400,000 USD**

Communities  
**Old Wharf, Culvert,  
Cockle Bay, Funkia,  
Congo Town, Olorshro,  
Juba and CrabTown**

Direct beneficiaries  
**120 female  
30 male**

### What we do

Through sustainable waste management strategies, the United Nations Development Programme in Sierra Leone is working hard to reduce risk of flooding in slum communities in Freetown, providing skills training on waste recycling with the aim of empowering women and youth to improve their livelihoods.

### How we do it

This project worked with women's organizations, providing funds to mobilize the local communities. Waste management committees were established, equipping young women and men with the tools they need to clean their communities and store raw materials.

### Why we do it

Sierra Leone is among the five most vulnerable countries to climate change stresses. Combined with poorly constructed houses situated along water ways, lack of proper sanitation and drainage facilities and uncontrolled dumping of refuse, predominantly plastics, risk of disaster in slum communities has increased considerably.

### Sustainable Development Goals

UNDP policy is guided by the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) a universal call to action, addressing the root causes of poverty while affecting positive changes for both people and planet. This project contributed directly to the achievement of:

SDG 1:	Reducing poverty through community empowerment
SDG 3:	Ensuring healthy lives for all
SDG 5:	Empowering women
SDG 6:	Access to safe water through containing hazardous waste
SDG 11:	Enabling inclusive, sustainable and resilient communities

### Achievements

Young women and men were trained in clearing blocked drains and waste recycling. Community members can now segregate their waste, and use recovered plastic refuse to produce useful crafts, such as handbags, computer bags, table mats, hats, shopping bags, and even floor tiles. If this continues, the volume of plastic waste in slum communities in Sierra Leone's capital would drastically reduce.

For more information about UNDP and its projects, go to: [www.sl.undp.org](http://www.sl.undp.org)  
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