


Country profile 2019 – Sierra Leone

Part 1. General information

1. Country information

	Full name of the country	SIERRA LEONE
	Capital	FREETOWN
	Official language(s)	ENGLISH
	Main ports	FREETOWN
	Coastline (km)	402 Km

Updated in November 2019

2. Contacts

GI WACAF Focal point

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Updated in November 2019

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National representatives completing this document

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3. Industry

Industry presence in the country

Which industry partners from the <i>Oil & Gas</i> sector are present and operating in your country?	Total (SL); NP (SL)
Cooperation with the industry	
Is there working group/platform that brings together government and industry to address issues related to oil spill preparedness and response? If yes, please provide the name.	YES: THE NATIONAL OIL SPILL CONTINGENCY PLAN (NOSCP)
Is there sharing of human resources and equipment between industry and government during exercises and/or training?	NO
Please list any other aspects relevant to cooperation between industry and government.	OIL SPILL RESPONSE TRAINING, communication strategy

Part 2. Updating the Country Profile, identification of level of preparedness and priority actions

I. Institutional and legal context

1. Designation of responsible authority (ies)

Competent national authorities responsible for oil spill preparedness and response

<i>Response at sea</i>	
Ministry/Department/Agency	SIERRA LEONE MARITIME ADMINISTRATION
Contact person responsible for oil spills at sea	KEN PHILIP SONDAI
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<i>Shoreline response</i>	
Ministry/Department/Agency	SIERRA LEONE MARITIME ADMINISTRATION
Contact person responsible for shoreline oil spills	KEN PHILIP SONDAI
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<i>Authority(ies) responsible for implementation of IMO conventions</i>	
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2. Ratification of international conventions and national legislation

Ratification of international IMO conventions (related to oil spill prevention, preparedness and response, and to civil liability and compensation) and their transposition into national legislation				
	Status of ratification	National legislation that incorporates the Convention	Status of implementation	Observations/specific actions needed
Prevention				
MARPOL 73-78	YES	THE DRAFT MARINE POLLUTION BILL	YES	THE BILL IS YET TO BE ENACTED
Preparedness and response				
OPRC 90	YES	DRAFT MARINE POLLUTION BILL		THE BILL IS YET TO BE ENACTED
OPRC-HNS Protocol	NO			
Liability and compensation				
CLC 69	NO			
CLC 92	YES	DRAFT MARINE POLLUTION BILL		THE BILL IS YET TO BE ENACTED
Fund 92	YES	DRAFT MARINE POLLUTION BILL		THE BILL IS YET TO BE ENACTED
Fund Prot. (2003)	NO			
Bunker Oil (BUNKER 2001)	YES	DRAFT MARINE POLLUTION BILL		THE BILL IS YET TO BE ENACTED
LLMC 76	NO			
LLMC 96	NO			

HNS 2010	NO			
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National legislation			
Maritime policies and regulatory framework	Do maritime policies or strategies exist? What is the responsible entity?	YES. THE SIERRA LEONE MARITIME ADMINISTRATION	
Ratification of IMO conventions	What are the main challenges/obstacles to ratification?	Lack of coordination	Lack of coordination among stakeholders
		Lack of priority	YES. THOSE WITH TOP MOST PRIORITY HAVE BEEN RATIFIED
		Lack of legal expertise	
		Lack of technical expertise	THERE ARE TECHNICAL EXPERT BUT FEW
		Lack of financial resources	
Incorporation of IMO conventions	What is the procedure for incorporating IMO Conventions related to safety, marine pollution, and liability and compensation, into national legislation?	DEVELOPMENT OF DRAFT BILL BY THE ADMINISTRATION STAKEHOLDER CONSULTATION FINALIZATION OF DRAFT LAW OFFICERS DEPARTMENT CARBINET PARLIAMENTARY APPROVAL	
Incorporation of: • 1992 Fund Convention • Supplementary Fund Protocol	Does the related law identify the national authority responsible for the submission of oil reports?		

II. National Oil Spill Contingency Plan

1. Development of a National Oil Spill Contingency Plan (NOSCP)

Document	
Name of NOSCP	THE NATIONAL OIL SPILL CONTINGENCY PLAN OF SIERRA LEONE
Status of NOSCP	UNDER REVIEW
Administrative act of initial approval – Number and date	MINISTERIAL APPROVAL
Date of last approved update	2016
Committee/working group responsible	NOSCP REVIEW COMMITTEE
Has the NOSCP been tested? Date and main comments	NO
What is the procedure for updating the NOSCP? Does the updated NOSCP have to be formalised through an administrative act (e.g. decree, law ...) for it to be applicable?	NO. MINISTERIAL APPROVAL

2. Coordination, notification policies and organisation of response

Organisation of response	
Does the NOSCP utilise concepts from the <i>Incident Management System (IMS)</i>?	YES
Is each defined role assigned to a person/function?	YES
Are the contact details of the responsible persons contained in an annex?	YES

Does the NOSCP incorporate the different preparedness levels (Tiers 1, 2, 3)?	YES
Organisation chart: <pre>graph TD; IC[Incident Commander] --> CM[Crisis Manager]; CM --> SS[Support Staff]; CM --> OS[Operation Section - RSLAF MARITIME WING]; CM --> LS[Logistic Section - SLMA]; CM --> PS[Planning Section - EPA]; CM --> AF[Admin./Finance Section - SLMA];</pre> <p>Command Section</p> <p>Support Staff Communication Supervisor Government Liaison Adviser Safety Officer</p> <p>Operation Section - RSLAF MARITIME WING Containment Recovery Disposal</p> <p>Logistic Section - SLMA Spill Assessment Equipment Accommodation Food Unit Evacuation</p> <p>Planning Section - EPA Status Reports Environmental-Monitoring Documentation Demobilisation</p> <p>Admin./Finance Section - SLMA Payment Invoicing Cost Control Administration</p>	

Notification and reporting procedures	
Are the emergency, notification and follow-up procedures (reports, etc.) well defined?	YES
Do they include a template as well as an updated contact list?	YES
Can the NOSCP be activated in case of an oil spill caused by a non-ship source (e.g. offshore platform, pipeline, etc.)?	NO
Coordination with local plans and the industry	
Are the local plans (port, terminal, etc.) referenced and integrated in the NOSCP?	YES
Are the contingency plans of oil and gas industry facilities referenced and integrated in the NOSCP?	NO
Involving the local communities	
Is the involvement of local communities in case of oil spills and during exercises planned?	YES
Follow-up and archive; compensation	
Is there a follow-up plan and archiving system that allows evidence to be stored?	NO
Are compensation and the procedures for requesting compensation defined and integrated?	YES

3. Components of the National Oil Spill Contingency Plan

Policy on use of dispersants

Status of the policy on the use of dispersants	N/A	
The use of dispersants is considered as (first/second/last option/not an option).	N/A	
State the name of the administrative act which details the policy on use of dispersants.	THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY ACT OF 2008	
Is there a list of approved dispersants? If yes, is it public?	NO	
Is there an approval procedure? If yes, which authority is responsible for this?	NO	
Is the same authority responsible for authorising the use of dispersants in emergency situations?	N/A	
Is the policy on the use of dispersants included in the NOSCP?	WILL BE WHEN DEVELOPED	
What are the geographic and bathymetric limits for use of dispersants?	N/A	
Is there a stock of dispersants?	NO	
Location of the storage sites	N/A	
Name	Owner	Quantity
Sensitivity mapping and risk evaluation		
<i>Sensitivity maps</i>		
Status of sensitivity maps	IN PLACE	
Responsible working group/committee	IN PLACE	
Are sensitivity maps included in the NOSCP?	YES	
Date of validation and last update	2014	
Does the map cover the whole shoreline?	YES	
Are the sensitivity maps public?	YES	
In what format are the sensitivity maps available? Print or digital?	BOTH	
<i>Risk evaluation</i>		

Does the plan include drift patterns?	NO
Does the NOSCP consider air surveillance in case of an incident (radar, satellite, aircraft, helicopter, etc.)?	NO
Does the plan include a risk register and spill scenarios?	YES
Is the Net Environmental Benefit Analysis (NEBA) included in the NOSCP?	NO
Shoreline evaluation and response plan	
Status of the shoreline response plan	N/A
Which authority is responsible for shoreline response?	SLMA
Date of validation and last update	N/A
Is the shoreline response plan part of the NOSCP?	YES
Does the shoreline response plan incorporate the Shoreline Cleanup and Assessment Technique (SCAT)?	YES
Can volunteers participate in shoreline response? If yes, is there a volunteer management plan in case of oil spills?	YES YES
Oiled waste management plan	
Status of the waste management plan	N/A
Responsible working group/committee	N/A
Date of validation and last update	N/A
Is the waste management plan part of the NOSCP?	N/A
Does the waste management plan include transport, temporary storage and final disposal of waste?	N/A

Does the national legislation consider oiled waste as hazardous waste?	YES
What legislative framework regulates waste management at the national level?	LOCAL COUNCIL ACT, EPA ACT
Contingency plan for the safety of oiled wildlife	
Status of the contingency plan for the protection of oiled wildlife	N/A
Responsible working group/committee	N/A
Date of validation and last update	N/A
Is the contingency plan for the protection of oiled wildlife part of the NOSCP?	N/A
Are there national bodies responsible for this? If yes, which ones?	NO
Are there cooperation agreements with international specialised organisations?	NO
<i>In-situ</i> burning policy	
Status of the <i>in-situ</i> burning policy	N/A
Responsible working group/committee	N/A
Date of validation and last update	N/A
Does the <i>in-situ</i> burning policy form part of the NOSCP?	N/A
What is the authorization procedure in case of an incident?	N/A
Other technical elements	

Does the NOSCP cover preparedness and response in the case of spills of hazardous and noxious substances (HNS)?	N/A
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III. Response equipment, training/exercises and international cooperation

1. Transboundary cooperation and international assistance

Regional agreements	
What bilateral and/or regional cooperation response mechanisms are included in the NOSCP?	NONE
Are transboundary exercises organised regularly? If yes, how often?	NO
Date of the last transboundary exercise	N/A
Transboundary transfer of expertise and equipment	
Are there specific customs and immigration procedures in place to facilitate the import of equipment and/or expertise?	N/A
If yes, what are the procedures?	
Assistance mechanisms	

Does your country participate in cooperation with projects/institutions aimed at improving preparedness and response? If yes, which ones?	NO
Is there mutual support between government and industry for the exchange of response equipment?	YES
Are mechanisms for mobilisation and access to public and private international assistance in place?	NOT YET

2. Training and exercises

Training	
<i>Courses</i>	
Does the country organise internal training for staff at all levels (based on the needs of the country and in accordance with international standards)?	NO
<i>Exercises</i>	
Does the country organise national exercises (involving local and private sectors) at least once a year?	YES
Education	
Does cooperation with universities to train future experts in environmental management and the management of industrial and environmental risks exist or is it planned?	NO

3. Equipment and national resources

Response equipment	
Government:	Private sector:
Centre for storage and maintenance of response equipment	N/A
Planned acquisition of response equipment by the government	IN PLACE
Inventories of public and private response equipment (annexed to the NOSCP)	YES
Procedure for the temporary loan of response equipment from the industry, in case of an incident	N/A
Crisis control centre (rooms for meetings and communication)	YES
Centre for resources, training and documentation for oil spill preparedness and for response management	N/A
Capacity for intervention	
In case of TIER 1 ¹ oil spills, is there sufficient national oil spill response capacity to enact intervention measures?	NO

¹ The definition of tiers 1, 2, 3 varies by country

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In case of TIER 2 oil spills, is there sufficient national oil spill response capacity to enact intervention measures?	NO
In case of TIER 3 oil spills, is there sufficient national oil spill response capacity to enact intervention measures?	NO

4. Communication

Communication with the media and the public	
Are standard procedures in place for communication with the media during exercises and actual incidents?	YES
Is there a practical and strategic training programme on communicating with the media, for decision-makers and other response stakeholders?	NO