



Together We Thrive

Image: Community-wide voting in Baaka



Who we are

OneVillage Partners saves lives and addresses the root causes of poverty. We do this by providing the tools for individuals **to meet basic needs** and create **long-term systems change**.

OneVillage Partners **catalyzes change** by providing communities with the platform to **end multi-dimensional poverty**. We are on a pathway to reach **3 million people** living in rural poverty in Sierra Leone.

The challenge

Ineffective governance at the national and local levels limits Sierra Leoneans ability to access basic needs and opportunities to thrive.

44% of the population lives in multidimensional poverty.

2M people are chronically hungry.

80% of under-5 deaths are caused by sanitation and environment issues.

These challenges stem from the systemic and complex legacy of the global slave trade, colonialism, civil war from 1991-2002, and two recent pandemics – Ebola and COVID-19.



Image: Baindu Mohamed, NOW participant, Peje Baoma



Our solution

Sierra Leoneans can address these challenges, meet their needs, and achieve long-term goals by partnering with their communities and local governments to build thriving, connected, and resilient communities.

We provide the platform for rural communities to meet their basic needs, build their advocacy and leadership skills, and connect with other communities to create grassroots action for change.

How it works

With our community partners, we have co-designed a bottom-up advocacy model that both meets basic needs and promotes civic engagement for sustainable change. Our three interconnected programs work together to build **inclusive leadership, social cohesion, gender equity, and resilience** to improve well-being and to empower civil society and engage local governing officials.



Image: Nyama Brima, NOW participant, Lalehun

How it works



Community Action program

- Volunteer-leaders are trained to mobilize their communities
- Women and men design and implement development projects that meet immediate and long-term goals

Nurturing Opportunities for Women program

- Women learn financial literacy, business and speaking skills with a picture-based curriculum
- Men in the household and community participate to promote gender equity

Lead program

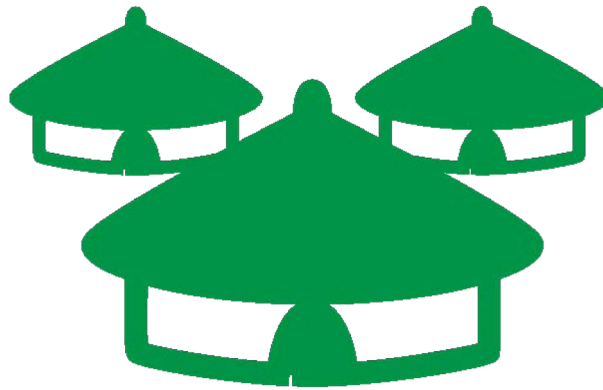
- Volunteer-leaders connect with nearby communities to identify regional challenges, and also with local government to strengthen dialogue and advocacy
- Communities are trained in proposal writing and submit a project proposal to OneVillage Partners for funding

Results so far



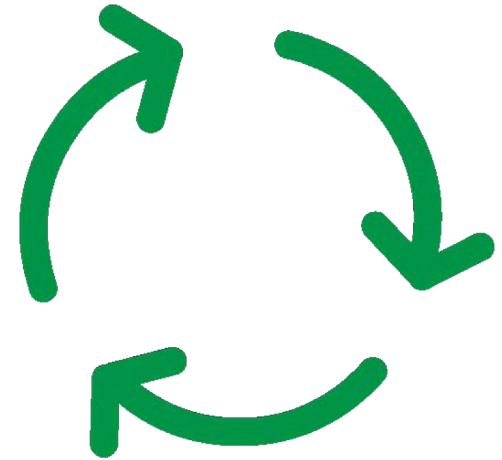
28,000

individuals reached



22

community partners
with active programming



96%

project sustainability
after one year of completion

Results so far

Inclusive Leadership



49% of volunteer-leaders have gained formal leadership positions in their communities

75% decrease in agreement with the statement that, “men are to be leaders, not women”

Gender Equity



115% increase in women speakers at community meetings

100% increase in NOW graduates' joint or sole control of decision making for major household purchases

Results so far

Social Cohesion



85% of community households contribute cash to projects, in addition to volunteering their time and other forms of contributions

85% of community members believe their community has a shared vision of progress

Resiliency



200% increase in NOW graduates that have an emergency savings fund

In 2019, **91%** of households experienced at least one economic shock, and **68%** recovered from the shock

A woman with dark skin and braided hair is standing in a village setting. She is wearing a white dress with a pattern of red flowers and green leaves. The background shows a dirt road, palm trees, and simple buildings. A semi-transparent white box on the right side of the image contains a quote in bold black text.

“I am proud of what we have learned from OneVillage Partners. If villages like ours realize what they can offer in their own progress, they will not wait for NGO supplies and handouts.”

**- *Hawa Brima Gbondo,
Gbeka community member***

Our vision

We envision all rural Sierra Leoneans having the tools to bring themselves out of multi-dimensional poverty.

By scaling our community-partnership model across the country, **we're on a pathway to reach 3 million rural individuals** through community-catalyzed change.

And we won't stop there. Once we've reached our current goals, we'll begin exploring additional country expansion.



Image: Yatta Bockarie, NOW participant, Peje Baoma



How we'll deliver

First, we'll double our reach from **30,000 to 60,000** individuals through new community partners and expanded programming for collaboration with local government.

Then, we'll **scale our model** across Sierra Leone to **reach 3 million Sierra Leoneans** living in rural poverty.

We'll measure our progress and refine our approach by using the **Multidimensional Poverty Index**, sharing results with communities so they can be the decision-makers and advise us.



Together We Thrive

Jill LaLonde, Executive Director
jill@onevillagepartners.org
www.onevillagepartners.org



Image: NOW: Business Skills participants,
Yandohun