

Kids In Kailahun (KIK)

# *KIK Down the Barriers*

PARTICIPATORY APPRAISAL IN  
SIERRA LEONE



*Giving the community of Kailahun the  
opportunity to have their say*



# ***KIK Down the Barriers***

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# KIK Down the Barriers

## INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

### ABOUT SIERRA LEONE

Capital: Freetown.

Terrain: Mangrove swamps, beaches and mostly shallow bays, wooded hills and a mountainous plateau. Natural resources include diamonds, bauxite, gold, iron ore and one of the world's largest deposits of rutile (titanium ore); sizeable marine and timber resources.



Industry: mining, forestry, fishing, flour, cement, petroleum refining, plastics, small commercial ship repair, tourism, small-scale manufacturing (beverages, textiles, cigarettes, footwear) and agriculture.

Historically, Sierra Leoneans were noted for their educational achievements, trading activity, entrepreneurial skills and arts and crafts work, particularly woodcarving.

### ABOUT KAILAHUN DISTRICT (Motto: "The Soil is Our Bank")



**Kailahun District** is in the Eastern Province of Sierra Leone. It has a total area of 4,859 km sq. As of 2010, the district has a population of 395,957. The District of Kailahun borders the Republic of Liberia to the east, Kono District to the north and Kenema District to the west. The population of Kailahun District is largely from the Mende ethnic group and the Mende language is widely spoken in the district. Its capital and largest city is **Kailahun**.

# ***KIK Down the Barriers***

## **A Decade-Long Civil War**

The Sierra Leone Civil War (1991-2002) began on 23 March 1991 when the Revolutionary United Front (RUF), with support from the special forces of the African Warlord, Charles Taylor, intervened in Sierra Leone in an attempt to overthrow the government. (Taylor's interest was driven by the mineral/diamond wealth of Sierra Leone in order to finance his ambition of becoming the president of Liberia). The resulting civil war lasted 11 years, enveloped the country, and left over 50,000 dead.

Initially the RUF were repelled by the Sierra Leonean army (SLA) but a long and complex war soon developed between rival militia groups. The SLA became equally brutal in their tactics and many soldiers became sympathetic to the rebel cause. SOBELS developed as a group - soldiers by day and rebels by night.

The KAMAJORS were localised militia groups that sprang up to protect local villages and families. Many hundreds of Kailahun Kamajors were hacked to death with chainsaws, in the notorious Kailahun 'slaughter house', by RUF sympathisers. All these different militia groups employed CHILD SOLDIERS to do much of the killing, often under the influence of mind altering drugs. Many remain addicted to these drugs today.

In January 1999, world leaders intervened diplomatically to promote negotiations between the RUF and the government. The Lome Peace Accord, signed on 27 March 1999, was the result. Lome gave Foday Sankoh, the commander of the RUF, the vice presidency and (ironically..) control of Sierra Leone's diamond mines in return for a cessation of the fighting and the deployment of a UN peacekeeping force to monitor the disarmament process.

RUF compliance with the disarmament process was inconsistent and sluggish, and by May 2000, the rebels were advancing again upon Freetown. The British intervened to save the failing UN mission and the weak government of President Ahmad Kabbah.

With help from a renewed UN mandate and Guinean air support, the British Operation Palliser finally defeated the RUF. On 18 January 2002, President Kabbah declared the Sierra Leone Civil War officially over.



# KIK Down the Barriers

## ABOUT KIDS IN KAILAHUN (KIK)

KIK is a UK registered charity working in the Kailahun District of Sierra Leone. The main hub of the charity is a sponsorship programme for children who have been orphaned through war or disease. The children are sponsored directly by individuals. KIK is committed to providing Education, Health Care, Nutrition and Shelter in order to help develop the children into young people who will play their part in the rebuilding of their country's shattered society.

## IN ENGLAND

KIK was founded in 2007 in the North West of England by Lorraine Goldsbrough following a visit to Kailahun by the North Lancashire District of the Methodist Church. KIK has since undertaken a number of projects, including:

- Rebuilding two primary school buildings, destroyed by the rebels.
- A Peace Workshop for those child soldiers who had missed the conflict resolution schemes provided for the young people at the end of the war.
- Work in local schools to provide support for teachers.
- Identifying more vulnerable children for the sponsorship programme.

## IN SIERRA LEONE

KIK is currently in the process of registering with Sierra Leone Association of Non Governmental Organisations. A number of local Sierra Leoneans have been identified to form a board of trustees. Working closely with the Church, Education Department, Hospitals and the Schools of Kailahun, KIK aims to make a difference in the lives of many children and their families and ultimately to be involved in the rebuilding of this devastated country.



KIK founder Lorraine Goldsbrough is pictured here with the the honorary Paramount Chief of Kailahun District, Alhaji Mohamed Kailondo-Banya.

*Further details can be found on the KIK website: [kidsinkailahun.org.uk](http://kidsinkailahun.org.uk)*

# KIK Down the Barriers

## AIMS of 'KIK Down the Barriers'

1. To find out what the people of Kailahun want from Kids In Kailahun (KIK) to help them rebuild their community.
2. To focus in particular on what young girls and women feel would improve their lives.
3. To produce a report on all of these findings so that the KIK organisation can use the report to support applications for grants in order to meet the needs of the community.
4. To make sure that the report can be understood by everyone, including the local population of Kailahun in order to be a starting point to begin the rebuilding of this community.

## About this Report

This report shows the process and results of the consultations we held in Kailahun in January 2011, using a process known as Participatory Appraisal, or PA. The consultations followed four days of training in the PA process. A team of eight



representatives from KIK UK, including a PA trainer, went out to Kailahun in order to train local people how to undertake PA.

The team learnt all about PA and how to make the tools to assist in the consultation process and then went out and about in the community to ask the local people about their lives and their views. All the resulting information was collated and analysed and is reproduced in this report.



# KIK Down the Barriers

## WHY PARTICIPATORY APPRAISAL (PA)?

Participatory Appraisal (PA) is a consultation process used to ascertain the



issues and priorities of those generally excluded from the decision making process in their area. PA was developed by aid workers in countries within Africa and Asia after they found that many of the solutions and facilities implemented in villages and

towns were not effective or remained unused, as they were often 'western' solutions to problems. When the whole community was encouraged to give their views, many different and locally effective solutions were suggested and the implementation was far more effective. The process also promoted a sense of ownership and involvement within the community.

PA does not set an agenda but seeks the real thoughts and feelings of the people living in a particular area. It has a proven track record of providing a realistic and achievable action plan for local people, enabling them to have a say in what actions are taken on their behalf. Effective community participation is about getting community members to voice their opinion and have a say on issues affecting them and be involved in delivering any required changes through directing local services. The research team (with guidance from the trainer) develop their own aims and objectives for the project, and the tasks and activities they will do. After the initial training programme the team carry out fieldwork or mapping. They go to where people already meet rather than asking them to attend an event. In this way the team try to ensure that they involve and include those who would not normally participate.

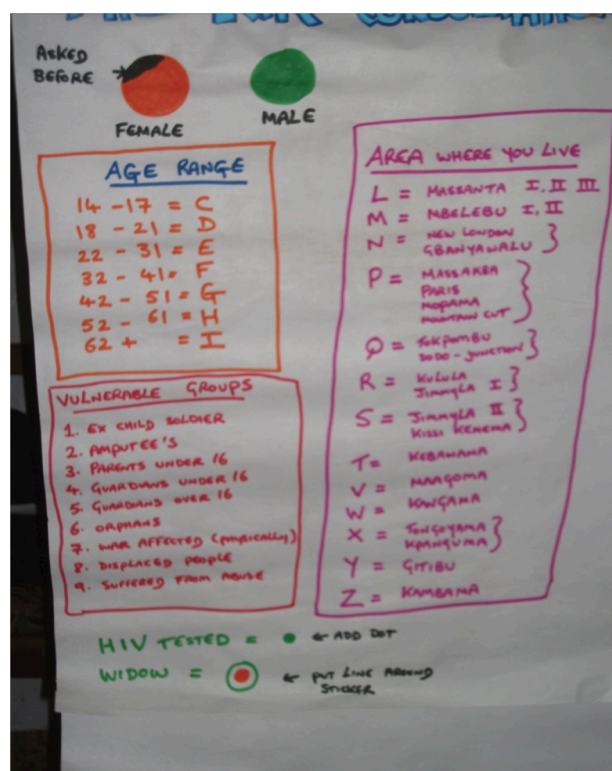
Brandy Derrick from Take Part Training (pictured) was commissioned to come to Kailahun to hold the training sessions so that some of the local people could undergo PA training alongside us.

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## PARTICIPATORY APPRAISAL IN KAILAHUN

During the first week of our stay in Kailahun we underwent PA training and conducted two rounds of interviews with the local people, following PA guidelines. The training was very much condensed to produce results as quickly as possible. However, the comments we gathered from the participants were more than sufficient to learn about their lives and how they hope to improve them.

We developed a Key to enable us to identify the age and sex of the people



interviewed and the areas in which they lived. We also used the Key to ascertain whether or not people were widowed, whether they had been HIV tested or if they belonged to one of nine vulnerable groups. These groups had been suggested by the local people amongst those undergoing training, many of whom were affected by the very same things that they were asking other people about.

There was considerable discussion about this element of the Key as there were some tricky issues around vulnerable groups. A very high percentage of the people interviewed belonged to at least one of these groups.

Only 50 of the 766 people we spoke to **did not** choose one of these categories, meaning that **93.5%** of the participants were facing some additional challenge on top of the hardships they told us about.

### VULNERABLE GROUPS

1. Ex-child soldier
2. Amputees
3. Parents under 16
4. Guardians under 16
5. Guardians over 16
6. Orphans
7. War affected (physically)
8. Displaced people
9. Suffered from abuse



# KIK Down the Barriers

## The Research Teams



### GROUP A

Sarah E Moiwo, Margaret M Fengeh, Christiana Lebbie, Nat Bockarie, Alpha Sallieu, Tamba Nyankendeh plus Amara Momah



### GROUP B

Pemu Bindi, Deborah Abram, Chief Lahai Bockarie, Henry Foyah, plus Daniel Goldsbrough



### GROUP C

Ian Mortimer, Matilda Saffa, Ellie Mabey, Mary Reed plus Musa Salir and Patrick J Foyah

The trainees were made up of both KIK members and members of the local community. They were split into three groups, one of which had only black members, to see if the data was skewed by race perception during the consultation process. It was decided that this group would be Group A.

## Designing the Tools

The initial training involved an overview of the consultation process and the PA process as a whole, with an explanation of the different PA levels and how the 'consultation funnel' worked. The next stage was to decide on which questions to ask the community in order to best find their needs. After looking at examples of tools which could be used, the participants were then given the chance to make their own. The group then voted on the tools they thought would be most effective and the chosen tools were enlarged to A3 poster size. Bright, bold designs were used which would attract people over to the consultation stations.



# KIK Down the Barriers

After creating the tools and the Key, the groups then each drew their own map of the area, as there were no local maps available. From the maps they identified the best places to go on the consultations, including areas where they were likely to find people



belonging to some of the specific vulnerable groups defined on the Key. These places included the market, the well, the under-5 Clinic and other strategic locations on the main road through Kailahun.

## Meeting the Community

The local people were curious when they saw our posters and we encouraged them to come and talk to us. Although most spoke English, some locals spoke only Mende, the local tribal language, so we made sure each group contained



some members who could interpret for them.

The people were keen to talk to us. We interviewed everyone over the age of 14 and our posters were soon covered with the comments and views of the people of Kailahun, giving us a vivid picture of their way of life.

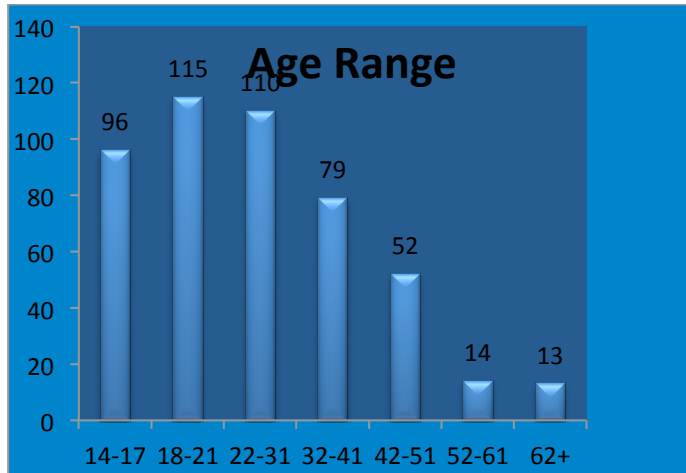
Two rounds of interviews were conducted, which we called Level 1 and Level 2: **Level 1** asked general questions to ascertain the main issues affecting people; **Level 2** questions were subsequently devised which sought to look at the initial findings in more detail.



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## ANALYSING THE DATA: LEVEL 1

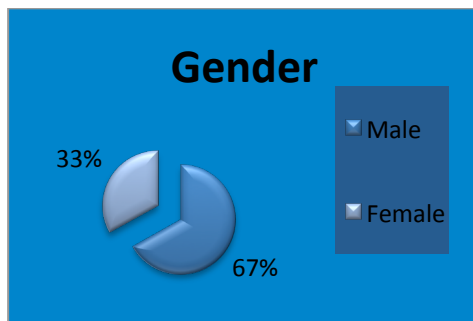
All the information collected in the PA consultations was entered onto a database. We analysed our findings to see how many people we had spoken to in each category and to identify the main issues from all the comments given.



About two thirds of the participants (65.6%) were aged between 14 and 31.

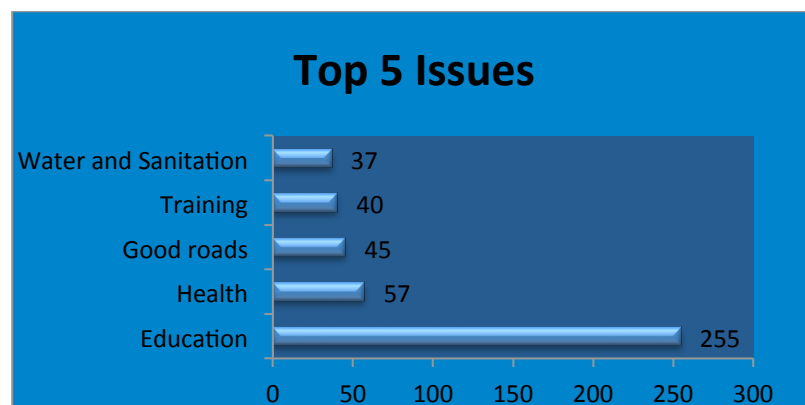
Only 5.5% were 52 or over.

10 did not state their age. Some do not know their exact age due to loss of family.



We found that the men were the most eager to be interviewed. The women generally needed more encouragement to take part.

When we went out for the Level 2 interviews we tried to specifically target women, to get a better gender balance.

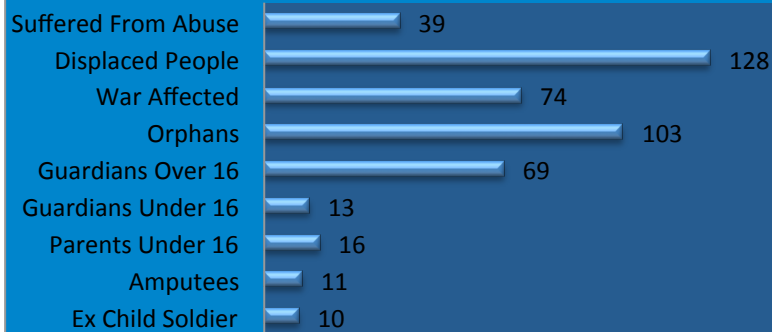


**THE TOP FIVE  
ISSUES  
HIGHLIGHTED  
DURING LEVEL ONE  
CONSULTATIONS**

**EDUCATION was by  
far the greatest  
concern.**

# KIK Down the Barriers

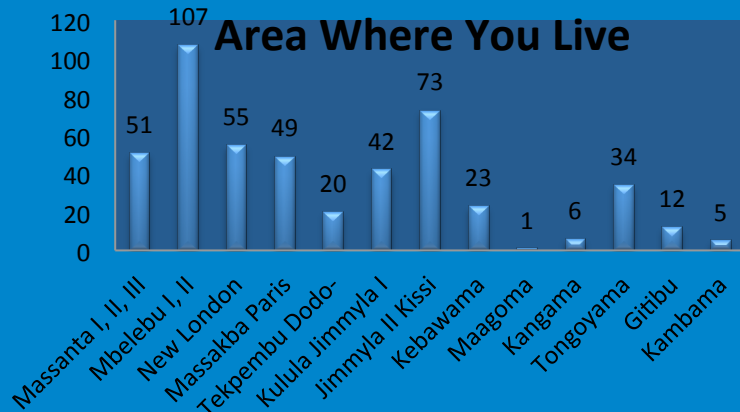
## Vulnerable groups



It is possible that more people belonged to some of these groups but were unwilling to say so.

Several of the participants belonged to more than one vulnerable group; for simplicity only one was recorded.

## Area Where You Live



Other statistics revealed by Level 1 interviews:

- 272 of the 489 interviewed had been HIV tested = 55.6%
- 68 of the 489 were a widow or widower = 13.9%



*Margaret and Amara with some of the results of Group A's consultations in the Market.*

*The stickers contain information about each person they interviewed. No-one is identified by name, but their collective comments tell us much about the needs of the community.*



# KIK Down the Barriers

## RESULTS OF THE LEVEL ONE CONSULTATIONS

To get an initial overview of the needs of the community we devised general, non-leading questions such as "What would give your life a lift?" and "What is the main issue that affects your everyday life?" Following the interviews we examined and categorised all the resulting information and identified which comments occurred the most frequently.

**Did the all black group produce different results from the mixed groups?**

**"What simple everyday thing could change your life?"** This question was asked by Group A, which contained only black members, and Groups B and C, which were a mix of black and white. Group C also asked a comparable question, **"What simple everyday thing will do the most to make your life better?"**

A total of 197 people gave their answers to these questions (125 male, 72 female). Here are the results:

	GROUP A (black)	GROUPS B & C (mixed)
Total number interviewed:	93	104
Total number of categories:	17	18
Categories produced in this group only:	5	8

Categories produced in all groups (total no. of comments in brackets):	Agriculture (11), alone (6), business (29), education (120), funding (9), good roads (13), health (17), jobs (12), loans (7), skills (19), training (39), water (15).
Categories produced in Group A only:	Electricity (6), food (3), market (1), ngo (1), poverty (2).
Categories produced in Groups B and C only:	Development (2), family (1), housing (2), money (6), peace (1), self care (1), spirituality (3), tools (8).

The main categories resulting from these interviews compare to the issues that were generally highlighted by the consultations. More people told the mixed groups that they needed money or tools, but otherwise there was no appreciable difference overall. Education emerged as by far the most important issue.

# KIK Down the Barriers

## LEVEL ONE ISSUES – Key Comments

The number of comments given in each category, with examples, are given below.

ISSUE	No.	TYPICAL COMMENTS
Education	255	Education, equipment for learning, tools and more qualified teachers; Lack of good teachers and learning materials; Education to become lawyer; To learn to be a doctor; To be educated at a higher level; Education to become accountant; Secondary school.
Health	57	Lack of medical facilities and pure water; Good food and living conditions; Good health for my child; Health centres with more drugs; Good health to make my leg strong; To cure my ulcer caused by diamond digging; Needs for hospital, schools, water and toilet facilities; Education and medical improvements.
Good Roads	45	Good road network; Construction of good roads, water and light facilities; Road construction, quality education for all.
Training	40	Educate our children and construction skills training for those who are not educated; Education for teacher training; Skills training is needed in all our towns and villages in Kailahun district; Engage in skills training to provide income.
Water Supply	37	Water pump – have to go long way for water; Pipe borne water; Water pump not tested; Orphan – pump or pipe water; Good roads and water systems.
Jobs	29	Employment to work in any sector and get better salary; Create job facilities for the poor people; Employment that can enable me to support my children; Enough jobs for youth.
Business	27	More business centres for women; Needs a business selling clothes; Need a bike for taxi business; Wants to develop business selling drinks.
Skills	26	Skill training (making of hand pump, water well); Carpentry; Engineering; Needs drawing and soap making education; Tailor; Professional development as a Marie Stopes nurse; Provision of computer training; Education – wants to be electrician.
Poverty	23	Poverty, working without money, a carpenter; The payment of my school fees; 6 year old daughter can't go to school because of poverty; I need support, poverty.
Funding	22	Three children need education but no help; Need help funding to complete schooling; Teacher training institution and funding; Need funds to help live life; I need someone to sponsor my education.
Housing	19	Good accommodation, food and health; Lack of houses, cost of goods and road network; Shelter for myself and the family; Water facilities and housing.
Electricity	18	Light facilities and road facility; We need electricity and boarding for girls; Good road network, water supply, electricity; Education and energy and power.

# KIK Down the Barriers

<b>Loans</b>	17	We need loan facilities; I need microloan to help solve some of my problems; Provision of microloan to establish business; Microloan for petty trader; I need money now because I have learnt a trade.
<b>Agriculture</b>	15	To be encouraged in agriculture so that the rice mill will work; Farmer and needs more help; Agricultural tools and microloans.
<b>Alone</b>	12	No relatives, I need housing; Wants to go back to school, no parents, cares for younger children, drawing, soap-making; I need help for my education, I have no support.
<b>Equipment</b>	10	Printing machine; Educational support - school fees and learning materials; Farm tools and equipment to be provided.
<b>Child Care</b>	10	More food, care for children and to help teachers in schools; How to care for my family, i.e. good clothes and shelter; Lack of parental care; Support for my children and shelter for my family; Vulnerable children in the community.
<b>Money</b>	9	Money to buy materials - trained carpenter; money to set up medicine business; Housing, improve on salaries and health facilities.
<b>Tools</b>	7	Masonry worker needs tools and work from a contractor; Finance needed for tools - water technician; Farmer needs tools and seed rice.
<b>Peace</b>	6	Peace; Peace of mind and medical care.
<b>Spirituality</b>	6	More prayer; More God in my life; To build schools, mosques and churches.
<b>Development</b>	5	Development in Kailahun on praying for me; Provision of refuse disposal.
<b>Market</b>	4	Market.
<b>Food</b>	3	Lack of good food; I need support for my education and food.
<b>Justice</b>	2	Justice and peace; To improve justice sector and health facilities.
<b>Displaced</b>	2	Displaced people; To look for my children, I don't know where my children are.
<b>Toilet</b>	2	Toilet and good pipe-borne water, electricity.
<b>Salary</b>	2	Conditions of service (low salary); To improve on our salaries as we are working with parents and children.
<b>Gambling</b>	1	Put a stop to gambling.
<b>Happiness</b>	1	Want to feel happy (ex-child soldier), feel trapped, no job.
<b>NGO</b>	1	W.F.P. worker.
<b>Possessions</b>	1	Property will give my life a lift.
<b>Self Care</b>	1	Taking care of yourself.
<b>Transport</b>	1	No vehicle to drive so no employment.
<b>Abused</b>	1	Suffer from abuse.
<b>Traditions</b>	1	Lost parents in war - want to remember them through traditional sacrifices as didn't get the chance.
<b>Friends</b>	1	Further studies and many friends.
<b>Discipline</b>	1	Good living conditions and good discipline.
<b>Library</b>	1	Good teachers and library facility.
<b>Clothing</b>	1	Finance, shelter for family, clothing and food.



# KIK Down the Barriers

## BEATING POVERTY

These are typical comments made by people who identified **POVERTY** as the main issue affecting them. However, lack of funds is implicated in many other comments: people without work who cannot afford to send their children to school; those needing loans to set up in business or training for employment to provide themselves with an income; a means of affording proper medical care.



# KIK Down the Barriers

## ANALYSING THE DATA: LEVEL 2

We can use our database to discover which issues are the most important to any selected group of people, categorised by age, gender, locality or any combination of factors. The six most commonly occurring solutions are shown below, showing the number of comments made by males and females in each category.

A very high percentage of people (167 out of 277 = 60%) said that **EDUCATION, SKILLS, or TRAINING** was the solution to their problem. The male/female split was very even, 82 males and 85 females.

### TRAINING NEEDS

Computer studies; art training; business training; construction; tailoring; engineering; retail; soap-making; Gara tie dye.

**Jobs they wanted to train for:** builder; carpenter; teacher; motorbike mechanic; lawyer; bank manager; doctor; nurse; accountant; police/security; media personnel; mason/carpenter; blacksmith.

76 of the 277 people suggested **BUSINESS** as a solution (27%). 48 of these were women (63%) and 28 were men (37%).

Most of those who wanted business opportunities also put forward **LOANS** as a solution: 60 people in all (22%). 44 were women (73%) and 16 were men (27%). Mostly these loans were to fund the setting up of a business, but other reasons were given, such as paying for a child's education.

### BUSINESS IDEAS (Micro-Enterprise)

Buy and sell diamonds and gold; cosmetics; wearings; palm oil and ready made goods; mobile phones; clocks; cigarettes; biscuits, sweets & batteries; petty trading; market trader; motorbike to ride on commercial business.

71 people saw **FUNDING** as a solution (26%): 55 women (78%) and 16 men (22%). Overwhelmingly this funding was needed for educational scholarships or the payment of school fees. 26 of the 277 wanted access to better **DRUGS**. The male/female split here was exactly 50/50.

# KIK Down the Barriers

## LEVEL TWO SOLUTIONS TO ISSUES – Key Comments

ISSUE	No.	TYPICAL COMMENTS
Education	113	Adult education funding; More education, better, more qualified teachers; Reduce school fees to help with my education; Education scholarship.
Business	76	Loan from the Government for business. Build training centres, provide tools.
Funding	71	Need extra help in Kailahun hospital; School fees, books, uniform, shoes; Being a trader, if I am funded this will take me out of poverty.
Loans	60	Business micro loan (60 comments).
Training	45	Would like to provide skills training motivating a group of people.
Drugs	26	More drugs, medical care for everyone.
Health	17	Know what problems patients have with better trained doctors, affordable drugs.
Jobs	14	Discouraged by not having a job at my age. Need job to help my children; Some people who have qualified documents for available jobs must not be asked for 3 years or more experience; Job opportunities to solve anti-social behaviour problems.
Poverty	11	More support in my education will take me out of poverty.
Equipment	11	Good drugs, more equipment in hospitals; Need more facilities, things can't be done for rabies in Kailahun.
Skills	9	Skills are needed to empower people to help develop a full career.
Water Supply	6	Some hospitals have no water facilities, need drugs and better equipment.
Support	5	Provision of support in areas of need like issuing books, scholarships and food for children in primary schools.
Good Roads	4	One of solutions to business is good road network.
Money	4	To give us money so we can get food to eat.
Development	4	Infrastructure needs improvement as a primary need to boost all business.
Tools	3	Already trained as a blacksmith, need materials and working tools.
Toilets	3	More medicines, water facilities and toilets.
Transport	3	Need more drugs and ambulance.
Agriculture	2	To be engaged in productive activities like agriculture.
Child Care	2	Child care needed so I can take part in education; Lots of children need more medical facilities for their care.
Housing	1	Poverty – housing.
Alone	1	Parents not alive, so need financial help for education.
Peace	1	Unity can take us out of poverty.



# KIK Down the Barriers

## WATER and ELECTRICITY in Kailahun



There is no piped water or sanitation in Kailahun. Drinking water has to be fetched from a well and clothes are washed in the river. Deep pits serve as toilets; schoolchildren make use of an area in the trees behind the school.

A basic water filter system was tried out in the KIK House and this proved to be very successful. Well water is

poured into a bucket containing a ceramic filter and the purified water then drains through into a container below. The clean water is ready for drinking. KIK are raising money to take more of these water filters to Kailahun, for use in the local hospital.

A few businesses in Kailahun centre have their own small generator to provide essential power. One bar has an outdoor area which is illuminated by electric lights. Schoolchildren can be seen studying their books under these lights as they do not have this facility in their homes.



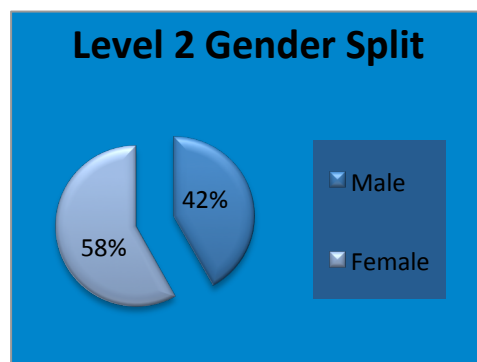
This small generator powers Radio Moa, the radio station that serves Kailahun district.

The motto of Radio Moa is **"Voice of the Voiceless"**.

# KIK Down the Barriers

## WHAT WOMEN SAID

KIK were particularly keen to find out the main issues affecting women and girls in Kailahun and what could be done to help them improve their lives. We deliberately targeted more women in the Level Two consultations when we discovered that more men had been interviewed at Level One.



We learnt from the Level One results that **EDUCATION** was overwhelmingly the most important issue for the people of Kailahun, whether male or female. Looking at the data for women only, more than half (53.70%) of those



interviewed at Level One state **EDUCATION** as their main concern, and this figure rises to 61.73% when combined with the similar categories of **SKILLS** and **TRAINING**. This was spread across the age ranges, with the highest percentage (a huge 91.18%) occurring in the youngest bracket of 14 to 17 years old.

When the Level Two results were analysed, it emerged that women overwhelmingly saw funding for education/training and loans for business enterprise as their way out of poverty.

The table on the next page shows all the categories that resulted from the Level Two consultations with women, with some of the key comments given. The most commonly stated solutions, **EDUCATION** and **BUSINESS**, were followed by **HEALTH** and **DRUGS**. It was recognised that financial support would be needed to facilitate these improvements.

# KIK Down the Barriers

## LEVEL TWO RESULTS - FEMALES ONLY

Category	No.	Examples of comments
Education	72	Education for our children; More support in my education will take me out of poverty
Funding	55	Educational scholarship; To pay the school fees of our children; Being a trader, if I am funded this will take me out of poverty
Business	48	If we undertake business activities this will take us out of poverty; Sponsoring business to drive away poverty
Loans	44	Microloan to help support my children; Business microloan
Drugs	13	More drugs, medical care for everyone
Training	13	Education for community development, to become lawyer
Health	11	Health facilities, more equipment and drugs in hospitals
Equipment	8	Provide books for pupils
Poverty	6	Poverty - to educate my children, loans for women
Money	4	To give us money so we can get food to eat
Water supply	4	Some hospitals have no water facilities, need drugs and better equipment
Support	2	More support in my education will take me out of poverty
Child care	1	Lots of children need more medical facilities for their care
Development	1	School building
Housing	1	Poverty - housing
Jobs	1	To create more job facilities in the community
Peace	1	Unity can take us out of poverty
Tools	1	Being a student for training and tools
Toilet	1	More medicines, water facilities and toilets

**FUNDING/ LOANS/ MONEY/ SUPPORT** were given as solutions by 105 of the 161 women interviewed at Level Two (65.2%). The following table shows a breakdown of what they wanted to use the money for.

Category	No.	Reasons Given
Education	48	Education for children and training for adults
Business	37	Microloans to set up or help with an existing business
Poverty	13	Education/business support as a solution to poverty, or just a plea for more help generally
Healthcare	3	Drugs and improvements to medical facilities
Child support	2	Help with child care
Equipment	2	Hospital and school equipment



# *KIK Down the Barriers*



Soap-making



The road to Kailahun



Small road-side businesses

# KIK Down the Barriers

## CONCLUSION - Summary of Findings

Kailahun is a remote area with no proper roads leading to it. There are few opportunities for employment in the area and many people are too poor to send their children to school or to fund their own training to help them to secure a job. There is no piped water, sanitation or electricity supply. Many of those who survived the ten-year war in Sierra Leone were left with their homes and businesses destroyed and their education incomplete. People feel trapped and recognise that education is the key to getting out of poverty. Both men and women ask for training or micro-loans to enable them to start small businesses to give them an income. Many care for parents or small children (not always their own), are in poor health or have disabilities, or face additional challenges as a result of the war.

There is a strong sense of community in Kailahun. Christians and Muslims live side by side in harmony and respect. The people are keen to help themselves and do whatever they can to provide for their families or to help one another.

Those children who can afford to go to school have high aspirations and are hardworking and eager to

learn. The war caused many people to miss out on ten years of education. In the secondary school classes of up to 100 students contain some in their late twenties, even 30 year olds, trying to catch up on the lost years.

In order to restore this community financial aid would help in the short

term. However, a variety of short and long term projects are needed such as medical and teacher training, voluntary work in schools, provision of equipment and improved facilities to enable the people of Kailahun to rebuild what they have lost and ensure stability for the future.





# KIK Down the Barriers



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