

INSTITUTIONAL SETTING AND PURPOSE

The Ministry of Water Resources (MWR) of Sierra Leone is responsible for managing and protecting the water resources at local, national and transboundary levels.

The Sierra Leone Water Security Project was funded by the Department for International Development (DFID) of the United Kingdom through its national WASH facility and had the overall aim of 'putting in place the foundations for water security in

Sierra Leone'. During this project, a groundwater monitoring network was installed, that measured groundwater levels from November 2012 onwards.

Currently, Sierra Leone does not have a national groundwater monitoring network.

CHARACTERISTICS OF THE NETWORK

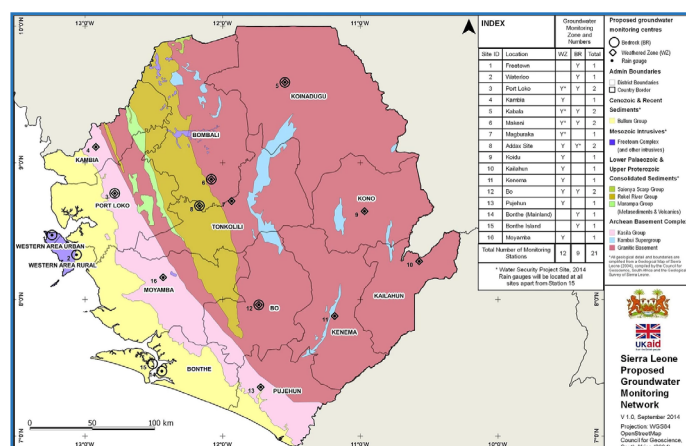
The network was equipped with automatic data loggers with barometric sensors in hand-dug wells and deep wells. Water levels were measured manually at the beginning and end of the monitoring period to validate readings.

PROCESSING AND DISSEMINATION

The Salone Water Security portal, powered by the MWR, is the nation's focal point for national policies, strategies and regulation. It stores groundwater level data of the groundwater monitoring network of the Water Security Project (18 wells, available for download). Bumbuna Watershed Management Authority (BWMA) is in charge of data collection and storage.

The Salone portal also presents a map of 2014 with a proposed national groundwater monitoring network.

Figure 1 - Proposed groundwater monitoring network, source: Salone Water Security



Sources

- National Water Resources Management Agency Sierra Leone (Salone Water Security) - <https://www.salonewatersecurity.com>;
- Republic of Sierra Leone, Ministry of Water Resources. Water resources monitoring in Sierra Leone - Vol 1 & 2. March 2015; and
- Upton K, Ó Dochartaigh BÉ, Thomas M and Bellwood-Howard, I. 2018. Africa Groundwater Atlas: Hydrogeology of Sierra Leone. British Geological Survey. Accessed 09-07-2019 - http://earthwise.bgs.ac.uk/index.php/Hydrogeology_of_Sierra_Leone.