



You're here to be the light, bringing out the God-colors in the world.

- Matthew 5:14

The Council of Churches in Sierra Leone (CCSL)

The Council of Churches in Sierra Leone (CCSL) has made significant strides in empowering women and supporting communities through transformative programs. Serving approximately one million church members and nearly three million beneficiaries annually, CCSL is committed to breaking barriers and promoting women's leadership across various sectors.

A key initiative is the Women's Desk, which focuses on training, mentorship, and enabling women's active participation in church capacity building, community development, leadership, and economic sustainability. Through this platform, CCSL equips women with the essential skills needed to take leadership roles in society.

One notable program is the Council's microcredit initiative, established in 2020, which supports participants in the Village Savings and Loan Groups (VSLGs).

This program includes 20 groups and empowers women to establish small businesses, provides finance education, improves access to clean water, and promotes community development. The microcredit program has proven to enhance women's leadership, business skills, and literacy.

In Kamara Town, women from the VSLG worked together to build a church and a school, which were previously unavailable in the community. Because of the lack of educational infrastructure, children had to travel long distances to attend school and often started school later than usual. With a school now in their community, children can begin their education at the appropriate age, and parents find peace knowing their children are safe and learning close to home.

In Campbell Town, a widow faced significant challenges after her husband's death, particularly around land ownership. Through the microcredit program, she secured a loan to formalize her land ownership. With the necessary documents now in hand, she proudly owns the land and has built a small house.

The program's impact is profound, with 70% to 90% of women contributing significantly to their households' welfare. These women not only focus on their personal growth but also dedicate themselves to supporting and mentoring other women in their communities. This shared commitment to uplifting others is a core value of the VSLGs.

