

Australia Awards

Global Tracer Facility

Tracer Survey

Year

3

201

8

-

1

9

Sierra Leone

Country Report

Alumni of

2011

to

2016

Tracer Survey

# Outcomes Summary: Sierra Leone

This country report details the responses of alumni from **Sierra Leone** to the Australia Awards Global Tracer Facility **Tracer Survey** carried out in 2018-19. The Tracer Survey was conducted between November 2018 and February 2019 and targeted **alumni who completed their award between 2011 and 2016**.

Alumni were asked a range of questions via an online survey, focussed on exploring the long-term outcomes of the Australia Awards. In total 3,768 alumni in this cohort from more than 123 different countries participated in the survey. A 26 per cent response rate of the target cohort was achieved globally. This report focuses on the response data of alumni from Sierra Leone.

For Sierra Leone, there were 41 alumni included in the target population. Responses were received from eight, a **response rate of 20** **per cent**. Among these respondents, eight were scholarship alumni.

The survey data provide a valuable quantitative insight into alumni use of knowledge and skills, development of networks and contribution to cooperation with Australia. The responses also offer rich examples from alumni of the types of contributions they are making, the way in which they are using their award, and the things that help and hinder them in reaching their potential.

The data detailed here are reported based on the four long-term outcomes of the Australia Awards as articulated in the *Australia Awards Global Strategy: Investing in the next generation of global leaders for development 2016-2018* and the Australia Awards Global Monitoring and Evaluation Framework. In terms of responding to the **long-term outcomes** of the Australia Awards, the following summary offers findings based on the responses of alumni from Sierra Leone. Further outcomes are included in the infographic following this summary.

**Outcome 1:** *Alumni are using their skills, knowledge and networks to contribute to sustainable development.*

* All alumni from Sierra Leone indicated they have passed on their skills and knowledge to others in their country on return from their award.
* All alumni indicated they had introduced improved practices and innovations in their work on return from their award.

/ 1

**Outcome 2:** *Alumni are contributing to cooperation between Australia and partner countries.*

* 83 per cent of alumni from Sierra Leone have maintained frequent contact with fellow alumni, while 50 per cent have frequent contact with friends in Australia and 33 per cent with Australian students/alumni.
* In terms of frequent contact with Australian organisations, 17 per cent of alumni have frequent contact with Australian Embassies, High Commissions or Consulates.

**Outcome 3:** *Effective, mutually advantageous partnerships between institutions and businesses in Australia and partner countries.*

* 33 per cent of alumni from Sierra Leone indicated having had a professional link with an Australian organisation at some time following award.
* These links were with Australian universities and the private sector.

**Outcome 4:** *Alumni view Australia, Australians and Australian expertise positively.*

* All alumni from Sierra Leone indicated their experience in Australia positively influenced their perception of Australia.
* All alumni have provided advice to people in Sierra Leone about pursuing opportunities in Australia.

The Tracer Survey represented the views of a range of alumni from Sierra Leone. Of those who responded, **38 per cent were women and 88 per cent came from an urban location**. The largest age group represented were alumni 30 to 49 years. All alumni were employed full-time. **All of the alumni respondents indicated that they hold formal leadership roles in their employment.**

In addition to this Outcomes Summary, this report includes an infographic as well as data tables including the detail of respondents from Sierra Leone to the Tracer Survey. The data tables correspond to each of the Australia Awards long-term outcomes and include benchmark data from the entire survey response population.

For further information about the Australia Awards Global Tracer Facility please visit the website: [www.australiaawardstracerfacility.org](http://www.australiaawardstracerfacility.org/)

/ 2

|  |
| --- |
| *I have successfully designed a nutrition intervention program that takes into account the expressed needs of the specific communities involved without imposing on them the "stipulated" practices as described for such interventions.* |

|  |
| --- |
| *I have been able to develop strong ties*  *with the Sierra Leonean communities in some states in Australia including the ACT and NSW.* |

|  |
| --- |
| *I am currently engaged in training front line and immediate level residents for the Field Epidemiology Training Programme in country. This training involves training health personnel as disease detectives.* |

|  |
| --- |
| *We have established an alumni group that is in touch with DFAT. We received small grants from DFAT and implemented a project in the health sector by rehabilitating a health centre in a remote community.* |

|  |
| --- |
| *I led the response in one of the districts during the*  *2014/2015 Ebola outbreak in Sierra Leone. Through the training I got I was able to effectively lead a multidisciplinary team of health professionals. My district was the first among the 14 districts in Sierra Leone to control the Ebola outbreak.* |



**Tracer Survey 2018**

**–**

**2019**

**Sierra Leone Overview**

**8**

**Alumni from**

**Sierra Leone**

Alum

ni who completed a scholarship or

fellowship between

2011

and 20

16

**2011**

**2016**

**Men**

**62**

**%**

**W**

**omen**

**38**

**%**

**100**

**%**

**of alumni**

Passed on skills

and knowledge

to others

**%**

**100**

**of alumni**

Introduced improved

practices and

innovations at work

**%**

**33**

**of alumni**

Developed professional

links with Australia

**100**

**%**

**of alumni**

Say their a

wards experience

positively influenced perception

of Australian skills and expertise

Host

institution

**%**

**0**

Other scholarship

alum

ni

**83**

**%**

Friends in

Australia

**50**

**%**

Australian

alumni

**33**

**%**

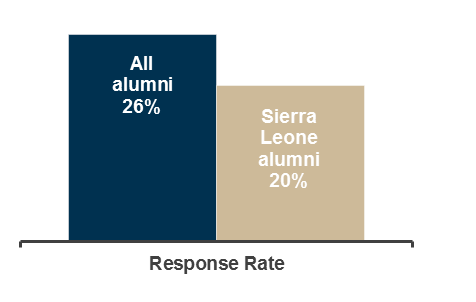
Australian

Embassy or

High Commission

**17**

**%**



**Table 1: Tracer Survey Data for 2011 to 2016 alumni from Sierra Leone and All alumni - Respondent characteristics**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  |  | Alumni from Sierra Leone | | | |  |  |  | |
| Scholarships | | Fellowships | | Alumni from Sierra Leone | | All Alumni | |
| Count | Column N % | Count | Column N % | Count | Column N % | Count | Column N % |
| Age at time of survey | Under 20 years | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 20 to 29 years | - | - | - | - | - | - | 111 | 3.0% |
| 30 to 39 years | 3 | 37.5% | - | - | 3 | 37.5% | 2134 | 56.8% |
| 40 to 49 years | 3 | 37.5% | - | - | 3 | 37.5% | 1144 | 30.4% |
| 50 to 59 years | 2 | 25.0% | - | - | 2 | 25.0% | 310 | 8.3% |
| 60 to 69 years | - | - | - | - | - | - | 52 | 1.4% |
| 70 and older | - | - | - | - | - | - | 6 | 0.2% |
| Year of graduation from award | 2011 | 2 | 25.0% | - | - | 2 | 25.0% | 382 | 10.1% |
| 2012 | - | - | - | - | - | - | 546 | 14.5% |
| 2013 | 2 | 25.0% | - | - | 2 | 25.0% | 631 | 16.7% |
| 2014 | - | - | - | - | - | - | 657 | 17.4% |
| 2015 | 3 | 37.5% | - | - | 3 | 37.5% | 881 | 23.4% |
| 2016 | 1 | 12.5% | - | - | 1 | 12.5% | 671 | 17.8% |
| Have you received any other awards? | Yes | 1 | 12.5% | - | - | 1 | 12.5% | 956 | 25.4% |
| No | 7 | 87.5% | - | - | 7 | 87.5% | 2779 | 73.9% |
| Don't know | - | - | - | - | - | - | 27 | 0.7% |
| What is your current employment status? | Employed full-time | 8 | 100.0% | - | - | 8 | 100.0% | 3297 | 87.7% |
| Employed part-time | - | - | - | - | - | - | 155 | 4.1% |
| Not employed | - | - | - | - | - | - | 113 | 3.0% |
| Retired | - | - | - | - | - | - | 15 | 0.4% |
| Studying | - | - | - | - | - | - | 135 | 3.6% |
| Other (specify) | - | - | - | - | - | - | 46 | 1.2% |
| Level of leadership in relation to current job | Formal leadership role | 8 | 100.0% | - | - | 8 | 100.0% | 2080 | 61.9% |
| Informal leadership role | - | - | - | - | - | - | 1019 | 30.3% |
| Do not have a leadership role | - | - | - | - | - | - | 203 | 6.0% |
| Don't know/prefer not to say | - | - | - | - | - | - | 56 | 1.7% |

**Table 2: Tracer Survey Data for 2011 to 2016 alumni from Sierra Leone and All alumni - Outcome 1**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  |  | Alumni from Sierra Leone | | | |  |  |  | |
| **Q**: To what extent do you agree with each of these statements:  I have… | | Scholarships | | Fellowships | | Alumni from Sierra Leone | | All Alumni | |
| Count | Column N % | Count | Column N % | Count | Column N % | Count | Column N % |
| Passed on new skills and knowledge to others | Strongly agree | 5 | 62.5% | - | - | 5 | 62.5% | 2298 | 61.1% |
| Agree | 3 | 37.5% | - | - | 3 | 37.5% | 1367 | 36.4% |
| Disagree | - | - | - | - | - | - | 44 | 1.2% |
| Strongly disagree | - | - | - | - | - | - | 13 | 0.3% |
| Don't Know | - | - | - | - | - | - | 38 | 1.0% |
| Introduced improved practices and innovations through my work | Strongly agree | 3 | 37.5% | - | - | 3 | 37.5% | 2023 | 53.9% |
| Agree | 5 | 62.5% | - | - | 5 | 62.5% | 1571 | 41.8% |
| Disagree | - | - | - | - | - | - | 69 | 1.8% |
| Strongly disagree | - | - | - | - | - | - | 12 | 0.3% |
| Don't Know | - | - | - | - | - | - | 81 | 2.2% |
| Built networks with Australians or Australian organisations | Strongly agree | 3 | 37.5% | - | - | 3 | 37.5% | 848 | 22.6% |
| Agree | 4 | 50.0% | - | - | 4 | 50.0% | 1892 | 50.4% |
| Disagree | 1 | 12.5% | - | - | 1 | 12.5% | 719 | 19.2% |
| Strongly disagree | - | - | - | - | - | - | 68 | 1.8% |
| Don't know | - | - | - | - | - | - | 226 | 6.0% |
| Built networks with other awardees | Strongly agree | 3 | 37.5% | - | - | 3 | 37.5% | 1683 | 44.9% |
| Agree | 5 | 62.5% | - | - | 5 | 62.5% | 1730 | 46.1% |
| Disagree | - | - | - | - | - | - | 251 | 6.7% |
| Strongly disagree | - | - | - | - | - | - | 21 | 0.6% |
| Don't know | - | - | - | - | - | - | 66 | 1.8% |

**Table 3: Tracer Survey Data for 2011 to 2016 alumni from Sierra Leone and All alumni - Outcome 2**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  |  | Alumni from Sierra Leone | | | |  |  |  | |
| **Q**: How frequently are you in contact with the following groups: | | Scholarships | | Fellowships | | Alumni from Sierra Leone | | All Alumni | |
| Count | Column N % | Count | Column N % | Count | Column N % | Count | Column N % |
| Host Institution | Always | - | - | - | - | - | - | 168 | 5.0% |
| Often | - | - | - | - | - | - | 568 | 16.8% |
| Sometimes | 5 | 83.3% | - | - | 5 | 83.3% | 1279 | 37.8% |
| Rarely | 1 | 16.7% | - | - | 1 | 16.7% | 973 | 28.7% |
| Never | - | - | - | - | - | - | 364 | 10.8% |
| Don’t know | - | - | - | - | - | - | 34 | 1.0% |
| Fellow Australian Students | Always | 1 | 16.7% | - | - | 1 | 16.7% | 278 | 8.2% |
| Often | 1 | 16.7% | - | - | 1 | 16.7% | 850 | 25.1% |
| Sometimes | 3 | 50.0% | - | - | 3 | 50.0% | 1270 | 37.6% |
| Rarely | 1 | 16.7% | - | - | 1 | 16.7% | 611 | 18.1% |
| Never | - | - | - | - | - | - | 341 | 10.1% |
| Don’t know | - | - | - | - | - | - | 32 | 0.9% |
| Fellow Award recipients | Always | 2 | 33.3% | - | - | 2 | 33.3% | 488 | 14.4% |
| Often | 3 | 50.0% | - | - | 3 | 50.0% | 1219 | 36.1% |
| Sometimes | 1 | 16.7% | - | - | 1 | 16.7% | 1151 | 34.1% |
| Rarely | - | - | - | - | - | - | 389 | 11.5% |
| Never | - | - | - | - | - | - | 115 | 3.4% |
| Don’t know | - | - | - | - | - | - | 17 | 0.5% |
| Professional associations or  Australian businesses operating in  Australia/your home country | Always | - | - | - | - | - | - | 104 | 3.1% |
| Often | - | - | - | - | - | - | 359 | 10.6% |
| Sometimes | 1 | 16.7% | - | - | 1 | 16.7% | 834 | 24.7% |
| Rarely | 3 | 50.0% | - | - | 3 | 50.0% | 989 | 29.3% |
| Never | 2 | 33.3% | - | - | 2 | 33.3% | 984 | 29.2% |
| Don’t know | - | - | - | - | - | - | 105 | 3.1% |
| Australian Embassy, High Commission or Consulate | Always | - | - | - | - | - | - | 85 | 2.5% |
| Often | 1 | 16.7% | - | - | 1 | 16.7% | 251 | 7.4% |
| Sometimes | 3 | 50.0% | - | - | 3 | 50.0% | 775 | 23.0% |
| Rarely | 2 | 33.3% | - | - | 2 | 33.3% | 1119 | 33.2% |
| Never | - | - | - | - | - | - | 1092 | 32.4% |
| Don’t know | - | - | - | - | - | - | 50 | 1.5% |
| Friends in Australia | Always | - | - | - | - | - | - | 426 | 12.6% |
| Often | 3 | 50.0% | - | - | 3 | 50.0% | 921 | 27.3% |
| Sometimes | 3 | 50.0% | - | - | 3 | 50.0% | 1232 | 36.6% |
| Rarely | - | - | - | - | - | - | 551 | 16.4% |
| Never | - | - | - | - | - | - | 219 | 6.5% |
| Don’t know | - | - | - | - | - | - | 21 | 0.6% |

**Table 4: Tracer Survey Data for 2011 to 2016 alumni from Sierra Leone and All alumni - Outcome 3**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Q**: As a result of your Australia Award, have you developed professional links with Australian organisations? | | Scholarships  Count Column N % | | Alumni from Sierra Leone  Fellowships  Count Column N % | | Alumni from Sierra Leone  Count Column N % | | All Alumni  Count Column N % | |
| Professional links | Developed professional links | 2 | 33.3% | - | - | 2 | 33.3% | 1513 | 44.2% |
| Did not develop professional links | 4 | 66.7% | - | - | 4 | 66.7% | 1583 | 46.2% |
| Don't Know | - | - | - | - | - | - | 330 | 9.6% |
| Types of professional links with Australian organisations\* | Public sector | - | - | - | - | - | - | 336 | 22.4% |
| Private Sector | 1 | 50.0% | - | - | 1 | 50.0% | 150 | 10.0% |
| Universities | 1 | 50.0% | - | - | 1 | 50.0% | 740 | 49.3% |
| Non-Government Organisations | - | - | - | - | - | - | 137 | 9.1% |
| Australian High Commission or Consulates | - | - | - | - | - | - | 30 | 2.0% |
| Other or don't know | - | - | - | - | - | - | 108 | 7.2% |

\*Note these counts and proportions only include alumni who indicated that they had developed a professional link as well as providing information about their current employment in the survey.

**Table 5: Tracer Survey Data for 2011 to 2016 alumni from Sierra Leone and All alumni - Outcome 4**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  |  | Alumni from Sierra Leone | | | |  |  |  | |
| **Q**: To what extent did your experience during your award influence your perception of the following: | | Scholarships | | Fellowships | | Alumni from Sierra Leone | | All Alumni | |
| Count | Column N % | Count | Column N % | Count | Column N % | Count | Column N % |
| Australia as a country | Much more positive | 6 | 100.0% | - | - | 6 | 100.0% | 2825 | 84.6% |
| Slightly more positive | - | - | - | - | - | - | 406 | 12.2% |
| No change | - | - | - | - | - | - | 84 | 2.5% |
| Slightly more negative | - | - | - | - | - | - | 13 | 0.4% |
| Much more negative | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Don't know | - | - | - | - | - | - | 13 | 0.4% |
| Australian people | Much more positive | 6 | 100.0% | - | - | 6 | 100.0% | 2497 | 74.8% |
| Slightly more positive | - | - | - | - | - | - | 626 | 18.7% |
| No change | - | - | - | - | - | - | 152 | 4.6% |
| Slightly more negative | - | - | - | - | - | - | 37 | 1.1% |
| Much more negative | - | - | - | - | - | - | 1 | 0.0% |
| Don't know | - | - | - | - | - | - | 26 | 0.8% |
| The knowledge skills and expertise of Australians | Much more positive | 6 | 100.0% | - | - | 6 | 100.0% | 2532 | 75.9% |
| Slightly more positive | - | - | - | - | - | - | 642 | 19.2% |
| No change | - | - | - | - | - | - | 118 | 3.5% |
| Slightly more negative | - | - | - | - | - | - | 19 | 0.6% |
| Much more negative | - | - | - | - | - | - | 2 | 0.1% |
| Don't know | - | - | - | - | - | - | 24 | 0.7% |
| Have provided advice to people from home country in relation to pursuing opportunities in Australia | Yes | 6 | 100.0% | - | - | 6 | 100.0% | 3245 | 97.3% |
| No | - | - | - | - | - | - | 74 | 2.2% |
| Don't know | - | - | - | - | - | - | 17 | 0.5% |

