TEACH FOR SIERRA LEONE

"Teach, Lead and Impact"

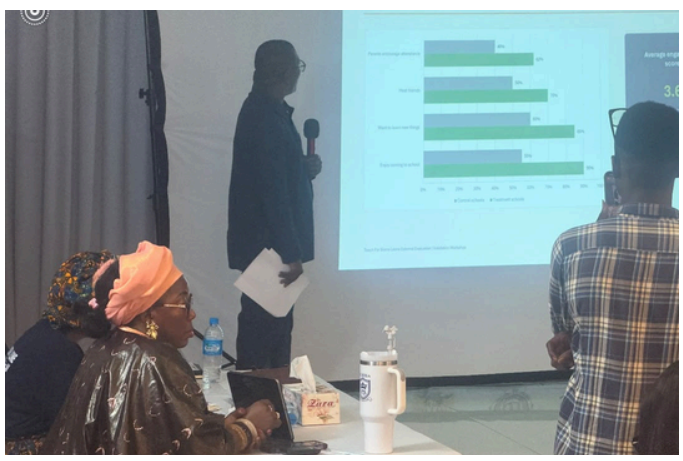
MONTHLY UPDATES

OCTOBER 2026

TFSL VALIDATES EXTERNAL EVALUATION REPORT FOR GRADUATES EMPOWERMENT PROJECT







On 23th October 2026, Teach For Sierra Leone convened a Project Evaluation Report Validation Meeting at Sapphyre Court, Freetown, for its three-year project, "**Empowering Young Graduates to Positively Impact Learning Outcomes in Moyamba and Karene Districts (2022–2025)," funded by the Embassy of Ireland in Sierra Leone.**

The external evaluation was conducted by Dr. Abdulai Maxim Conjoh and his team to assess the project's implementation, achievements, outcomes, and contribution to improving teaching and learning in the two districts. The validation meeting brought together approximately 100 stakeholders, including representatives from the MBSSE, the Embassy of Ireland, the Parliamentary Committee, district education authorities, development partners, civil society organisations and other key education stakeholders. The gathering provided an important platform for reviewing the evaluation findings, reflecting on the project's achievements and ensuring that the report accurately captured its implementation experience and impact.

In her opening remarks, TFSL CEO, Madam Josephine M. Saidu, emphasised that **we need to know what has worked, what has fallen short and what we should change** in our programme, the children we serve deserve that honesty and so do the people who have invested in us. She also expressed appreciation to the Embassy of Ireland for its continued partnership and investment in strengthening education in Sierra Leone.

The Development Specialist at the Embassy of Ireland, Madam Keelin O'Suluvan, reaffirmed the importance of **investing in education** and supporting initiatives that promote equitable access to quality learning.
Delivering the keynote address, the Deputy Minister of Education 2 of the MBSSE Madam Mamusu Murana, acknowledged the **critical role TFSL** plays in **improving educational outcomes and supporting the Government's commitment to strengthening teacher development and quality education delivery.**

The Chair of the Parliamentary NGO Committee Hon. Rebecca Yei Kamara, highlighted the importance of accountability, transparency, and effective partnerships in ensuring that development investments produce tangible results.

The validation process concluded with **no new findings or recommendations** raised, affirming the findings and recommendations presented in the external evaluation report. This outcome reflected a shared understanding among stakeholders of the evaluation's conclusions and reinforced the importance of the report as a resource for institutional learning, programme improvement, and future education planning.

TFSL ANNOUNCES SECOND CALL FOR PROPOSALS FOR THE 2026 ALUMNI INNOVATOR PITCH COMPETITION



Our inaugural competition winners

On 19th October 2026, Teach For Sierra Leone opened its second Call for Proposals for the 2026 Alumni Innovator Pitch Competition, under the theme "From Classroom Experience to Community Impact."

The competition builds on the success of its maiden edition, which recognised and supported innovative alumni-led initiatives. The first-place award (Gold) was jointly won by Aiah Patrick Gbandawa and Hassan Gbla, while Tamba Ngevao emerged as the Silver Award winner and Chris Sparklyn secured the Bronze Award.

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Building on this momentum, the second edition invites TFSL alumni to submit innovative projects and initiatives that translate their classroom and community experiences into practical solutions addressing challenges and creating positive change. To be eligible, applicants must be TFSL alumni, and their proposed projects must have been active or piloted within the last 12 months.

As part of its commitment to supporting alumni-led innovation and entrepreneurship, TFSL is offering seed funding to three successful applicants: NLe 50,000 for the Gold Award, NLe 30,000 for the Silver Award, and NLe 20,000 for the Bronze Award. The funding is intended to support the growth and expansion of promising alumni initiatives.



Applications opened on **19th October and will close on 8th November 2026, with selected participants expected to pitch their proposals on 5th December 2026 during the Alumni Summit.**

Through this initiative, TFSL continues to invest in its alumni network by creating opportunities for former Fellows to showcase their innovations, and scale solutions that contribute to social impact across Sierra Leone.

154 Wilkinson Road, Opposite Metropolitan Funeral Home, Freetown.
Email: info@teachforsierraleone.org / jsamura@teachforsierraleone.org
Website:www.teachforsierraleone.org | Telephone: +232 75023677 | +23233991550| +447508190702

TFSL HOLDS END-OF-PROJECT MEETING WITH THE EMBASSY OF IRELAND

Teach For Sierra Leone (TFSL) held an end-of-project meeting with representatives of the Embassy of Ireland in Sierra Leone following the completion of its project, “Empowering Young Graduates to Positively Impact Learning Outcomes in Moyamba and Karene Districts (2022–2025).”

The meeting provided an opportunity to formally review the implementation and outcomes of the three-year project, reflect on key achievements, share lessons learned, and







discuss the project's overall contribution to improving teaching and learning outcomes in Moyamba and Karene Districts.

As part of the close-out process, TFSL submitted its project reports and budget expenditure documentation to the Embassy, providing an account of programme implementation, activities undertaken, results achieved, and the utilisation of project funds. The submission formed an important part of the project's reporting and accountability requirements, ensuring transparency in the management of resources and documentation of results.

Discussions also focused on the project's impact, implementation experiences, challenges, and key lessons that could inform future programming. The meeting provided an opportunity for both parties to reflect on their partnership and the role of the Embassy's support in enabling young graduates to contribute meaningfully to improving learning outcomes in underserved communities.

Additionally, TFSL's Climate Lead provided an update on the implementation of the climate project titled “Strengthening Climate Education and Action in Moyamba and Karene Districts.” The update highlighted progress made, key activities undertaken, and ongoing efforts to promote climate awareness, education, and community-led climate action in the project communities. The discussion also provided an opportunity to reflect on the project's achievements and remaining activities ahead of its scheduled conclusion in November 2026.

The engagement marked an important milestone in formally closing the three-year education project while providing an opportunity to review progress on the ongoing climate initiative. It further reinforced the value of the partnership between TFSL and the Embassy of Ireland in advancing quality education, climate awareness, and sustainable community development in Sierra Leone.

TFSL expressed its sincere appreciation to the Embassy of Ireland in Sierra Leone for its continued support, partnership, and investment in education and climate action.

ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT: AMINATA WADIATU LOLLEH

This month's Alumni Spotlight features Aminata Wadiatu Lolleh, a Cohort 2 alumna of TFSL’S Fellowship, whose professional journey reflects the lasting impact of the Fellowship beyond the classroom.

Aminata holds a BSc. Honours in Accounting from Njala University and a Master's Degree in Accounting, Auditing



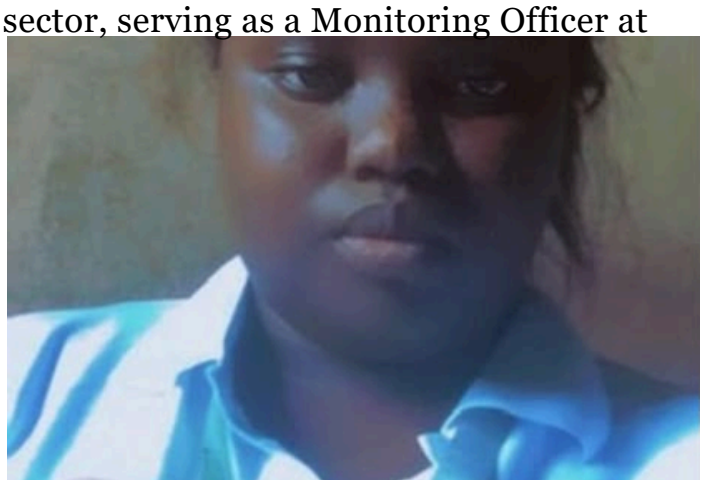
and Taxation from Ernest Bai Koroma University of Science and Technology.

Driven by her passion for making a difference, she joined the Teach For Sierra Leone Fellowship and was placed at Kingtom Police Barracks Primary School in Western Urban District, where she served as a Teacher Fellow for Classes 3 and 4.

During her Fellowship, she contributed to pupils' learning and development while strengthening her leadership, classroom management, and interpersonal skills

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Her impact, however, did not end with the Fellowship. Following her placement, Aminata transitioned into the development sector, serving as a Monitoring Officer at



BRAC Microfinance. She currently works with SEND Sierra Leone's Pikin Tab Learning Programme, which uses digital tablets to help primary school pupils strengthen their literacy and numeracy skills.

In her current role, Aminata is contributing to efforts to make foundational learning more accessible, engaging, and effective for children. By drawing on her experience as a Teacher Fellow, she shared: ***"The TFSL Fellowship has helped me navigate this programme because it has to do with kids. My experience teaching Classes 3 and 4 has made this job much easier for me. I understand the children, and I know how to make learning fun for them."***



Aminata's journey illustrates how the Fellowship develops individuals who can apply their skills and experiences across different sectors while remaining committed to improving lives.

Her story reflects the ripple effect of the TFSL Fellowship: empowering one fellow to influence the learning experiences, opportunities, and futures of many more children.

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FELLOW SPOTLIGHT: ALIE KOROMA





At Ahmadiyya Muslim Primary School in Panlap, Bombali District, TFSL Cohort 6 Fellow Alie Koroma is transforming Class 3 learning through innovative, learner-centred teaching approaches.

When Alie arrived, **only 3 of the 14 pupils could read simple three-letter words,** while most struggled with two-digit addition. The classroom lacked adequate learning materials, and pupils had limited confidence in their abilities.

To address these challenges, Alie created a **print-rich learning environment using locally available materials.** He introduced a Literacy Corner, daily phonics sessions, word cards, and practical numeracy activities using stones, sticks, and bottle caps.

Through Reading Buddies and after-school remedial classes guided by the Teaching at the Right Level (TaRL) approach, he provides targeted support to pupils according to their learning needs.

These interventions have contributed to remarkable progress. **13 of the 14 pupils can now read simple sentences, while all 14 can correctly perform two-digit addition and subtraction. Pupils have also developed greater confidence, become more engaged in classroom activities, and shown increased interest in subjects such as Science and Social Studies.**





TFSL commends Alie for the remarkable transformation he is creating in the lives of the children in Panlap in Bombali District.

FELLOW SPOTLIGHT:MARIAMA SAMAI





In Gondama Community, Bo District, Teach For Sierra Leone Cohort 7 Fellow Mariama Samai is demonstrating what commitment, compassion, and purposeful leadership look like in the classroom and beyond.

Since arriving at her placement at Every Nation Primary School, Gondama, Mariama has maintained an **exceptional record of dedication and punctuality**, having not missed a single day at her placement school.

Her impact is particularly evident in her work with kindergarten pupils. Through the practical application of strategies introduced during her Fellowship training, Mariama has cultivated an **active and engaging classroom environment where pupils participate enthusiastically in lessons.**

Beyond teaching, Mariama has emerged as a **strong leader, she has taken the initiative to support and coordinate community engagement activities,** helping community members better understand the purpose of the Fellowship and the role of fellows in supporting educational development.

Her consistent efforts are contributing to a **positive learning environment** and strengthening the relationship between the school and its community.





TFSL celebrates Mariama for her exemplary service and the positive impact she continues to create in the lives of her pupils.

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