

CLIMATE CHANGE AND THE ENVIRONMENT

Trend Analysis: 2017, 2023 and 2025

Infographic output for IGR Development Scorecard

Indicator 9: Environment - An additional 10,000,000 trees planted

Source: MTNDP 2024-2030, Page 168; President's Recovery Priorities; Author's verification

Strategic objective

Strengthen Sierra Leone's environmental governance architecture, promote sustainable management of natural resources, build resilience and adaptive capability to climate change, and support biodiversity conservation, wildlife management, research, and ecosystem services for present and future communities.

2017

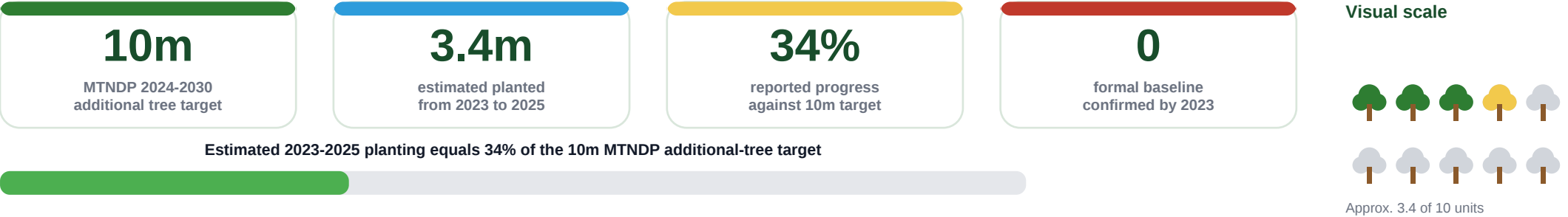
No figure

2023

No baseline

2025

3.4m planted



Trend signal

From no figure in 2017 and no baseline in 2023, the available evidence shows a positive implementation signal by 2025 through an estimated 3.4m additional trees planted.

Critical constraint

Unchecked tree cutting across the country is severely hampering reforestation and contributing to environmental damage and biodiversity loss.

Scorecard message

The indicator should move beyond counting trees planted to verifying tree survival, geographic coverage, illegal logging enforcement, biodiversity outcomes, and protected-area governance.

Year	Evidence status	Climate/environment trend signal	Scorecard implication
2017	No verified figure	No figure was available from the provided recovery-priority records, so the tree-planting indicator starts with a weak evidence base.	Direct comparison is not possible. The scorecard should state this transparently instead of assuming a baseline.
2023	No baseline established	Tree planting had shifted from post-disaster reforestation toward organised and digitally tracked climate resilience, but there was still no formal baseline.	A national baseline and a central reporting mechanism are required before progress can be fully verified.
2025	3.4m estimated additional trees planted	Implementation momentum is visible, driven by groups such as Rainforest Builders, Miro, and West African Blue. However, unchecked tree cutting threatens the gains.	Track tree survival, land restoration, illegal logging enforcement, biodiversity impact, and protected-area outcomes.

Recommended IGR scorecard indicators

- Additional trees planted, verified by location and date
- Tree survival rate after 12 and 24 months
- Area restored or protected in hectares
- Illegal logging cases detected, prosecuted, and resolved
- Biodiversity and ecosystem-service indicators for protected areas

Overall assessment

The trend is positive but only partially measurable. The 2025 planting estimate shows momentum toward climate resilience, but the lack of 2017 and 2023 baselines weakens accountability. The biggest policy priority is to protect planted and existing trees, because cutting and land degradation can erase headline planting gains.

IGR conclusion: Count what is planted, verify what survives, and protect what already exists.