TRADE TREND ANALYSIS
Sierra Leone Manufacturing & Industrialisation Scorecard

Strategic objective
Strengthen the role of trade in diversification, infrastructure development and economic competitiveness through inclusive, sustainable green industrialisation.

2017	2023	2025	2028
1.95%	**10%**	**~8%**	**25%**
Reported manufacturing share	MTNDP reference baseline/target	April 2026 assessment estimate	MTNDP target
Low base	Policy ambition	Improving but off target	Required leap

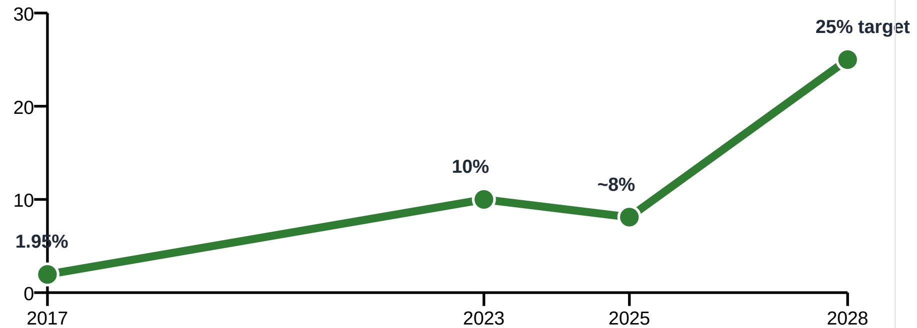
Trend interpretation

Sierra Leone moved from a very low reported manufacturing base in 2017 to a stronger industrialisation ambition in the 2024-2030 plan. The current position, assessed at slightly above 8% of GDP by April 2026, shows improvement compared with 2017 but remains below the 10% reference level and far below the 25% target set for 2028.

Scorecard judgement: Progress is visible but insufficient. The gap to the 2028 target is large and will require accelerated SEZ delivery, agro-park investment, energy access, trade facilitation, export logistics and domestic processing capacity.

8.1% of GDP Target: 25%

Manufacturing value added as % of GDP



Note: 2023 shows the MTNDP baseline/target reference. 2025 is assessed as slightly above 8%.

Data table and scorecard actions continue on the next page.

Trend data table

Indicator	2017	2023	2025 / Apr 2026 assessment	2028 target
Manufacturing value added as % of GDP	1.95%	10% reference in MTNDP	Slightly above 8%	25%
Policy signal	Weak industrial base	Green industrialisation, SEZs and agro-parks proposed	Agribusiness investment may lift output	Manufacturing scaled as major GDP contributor
Delivery status	Low baseline	Ambitious target set	Below required trajectory	High acceleration needed

IGR scorecard output: what the numbers mean

Scorecard dimension	Assessment
Current delivery status	At risk / off-track against 2028 target. The movement from 1.95% in 2017 to slightly above 8% is meaningful, but the distance to 25% remains substantial.
Main bottleneck	Manufacturing is still dominated by small-scale processing, limited value addition, weak power reliability, high logistics costs and limited industrial infrastructure.
Opportunity area	SEZs, agro-parks, food processing, packaging, cold-chain logistics, light manufacturing and export-linked agribusiness can raise the manufacturing share if implementation is fast and coordinated.
Recommended IGR tracking metrics	1. SEZs legally established and operational. 2. Number of agro-parks with anchor investors. 3. Manufacturing share of GDP. 4. Export value from processed products. 5. Jobs created in manufacturing and agro-processing.
2026-2028 delivery priority	Shift from policy commitment to implementation: serviced land, power, roads, investor incentives, standards labs, export facilitation and local supplier development.

Overall trend conclusion

The trade and manufacturing pillar has moved from a low baseline to a clear policy ambition, but implementation is not yet moving at the pace required to reach 25% of GDP by 2028. The scorecard should therefore mark this indicator as **progress made, but off-track**, with the strongest future gains expected from agro-processing, SEZs and green industrialisation infrastructure.

Sources used

1. Government of Sierra Leone, Medium-Term National Development Plan 2024-2030: target that manufacturing contribution to GDP increases from 10% to 25% by 2028 and SEZs/agro-parks are advanced through green industrialisation. 2. CEIC / World Bank indicator: Sierra Leone SL: GDP: % of GDP: Gross Value Added: Industry: Manufacturing, reported at 1.958% in 2017. 3. World Bank, Manufacturing, value added (% of GDP), indicator NV.IND.MANF.ZS. 4. IMF 2026 / IGR scorecard note: as of April 2026, manufacturing and industry added value trended slightly above 8% of GDP, with potential increase from agribusiness investment.