

## Indicator 78: Participation in International Competitions

Strategic objective: empower sports to play a leading role in youth employment, talent development, skills, services, education, entertainment, revenue generation, national cohesion, and consolidation of peace.

1+

2017 verified baseline

Commonwealth Youth Games verified

6+

2023 verified performance

Above 2030 end-term target

6+

2025 verified performance

Performance sustained

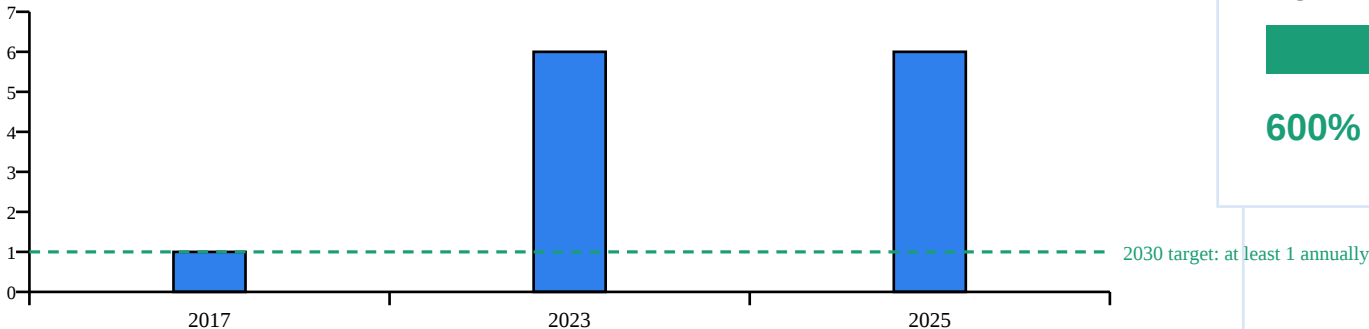
1

2030 end-term target

At least one annually

### Trend: verified international sports participation

Measured as minimum number of international competitions/events participated in or verified for the year.



### 2025 status against 2030 target

Target: 1 annual competition

600% of target achieved (6 vs 1)

### Main trend interpretation

Sierra Leone moved from a low verified participation baseline in 2017 to a stronger and sustained level by 2023 and 2025. The data shows the country is already exceeding the MTNDP 2030 minimum participation target.

### Scorecard implication

The indicator is under-targeted. A country already participating in 6 or more international competitions should not only be measured by attendance. The scorecard should add quality indicators such as medals, youth pipeline, women participation, federations supported, athlete welfare, sponsorship mobilised, and hosting capacity.

## Year-by-Year Trend Assessment

| Year | Verified/Reported participation                                                                                                                                                                             | Trend reading                                                                                                                  | Scorecard status                                        |
|------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------|
| 2017 | 1+ international competition verified. Sierra Leone was represented at the Commonwealth Youth Games in Nassau, Bahamas, in athletics and swimming.                                                          | Baseline year shows international exposure, but limited verified breadth from the information available.                       | Meets the 2030 minimum, but weak as a growth benchmark. |
| 2023 | 5 major international sports events reported, and at least 6 international competitions verified.                                                                                                           | Major improvement. Participation is broader and already above the 2030 end-term target.                                        | Exceeded target.                                        |
| 2025 | At least 6 international competitions verified. Additional 2025 records show continued international representation, including African School Games participation and senior football World Cup qualifiers. | Performance appears sustained rather than a one-year spike. The participation target remains achievable and already surpassed. | Exceeded target and sustained.                          |

## Recommended IGR Scorecard Enhancement

| Recommended improved 2030 scorecard metrics                                                        | Why this matters                                                       |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1. Number of international competitions per year, disaggregated by sport, gender and age category. | Moves the indicator from simple attendance to inclusive participation. |
| 2. Medal count, rankings, qualification progress and personal bests.                               | Measures performance quality and competitiveness.                      |
| 3. Number of youth athletes scouted, trained and supported through federations.                    | Links sports to youth employment and talent development.               |

# SPORTS DEVELOPMENT TREND ANALYSIS

Sierra Leone participation in international competitions | Indicator 78



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|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|
| 4. Sports economy contribution: sponsorship, ticketing, broadcasting, tourism and local services. | Connects sports to revenue generation and jobs. |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|

Sources: MTNDP 2024-2030, p.112 as provided by the user; user-provided author verification for 2023 and 2025; African Sports Monthly report on Sierra Leone Commonwealth Youth Games team, 10 July 2017; National Olympic Committee of Sierra Leone 2025 African School Games dispatch; International-football.net 2025 Sierra Leone national team fixtures.