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## SAC

In 2009, Sierra Leone's Minister of Agriculture, having visited Socfin's LAC plantation in Liberia, decided to ask the Socfin Group to develop a project in Sierra Leonean territory.

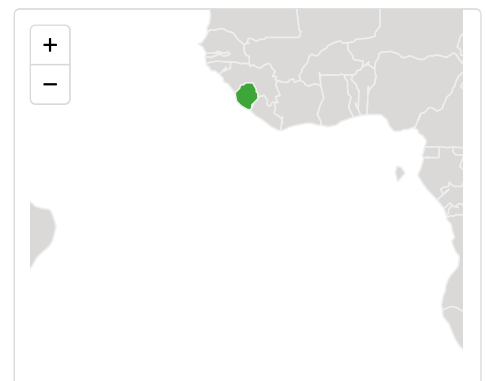
Slash-and-burn cultivation is an ancestral practice in Sierra Leone. However, it requires suitable land rotation in order to avoid soil depletion; unfortunately, the needs of the ever growing population mean that proper crop rotation is no longer possible. As a result, the country is experiencing the progressive degradation of its soils. This loss of soil productivity is leaving it increasingly dependent on imports of basic commodities.

In seeking the Socfin Group's help a few years ago, the Minister of Agriculture was aiming to reduce this dependence and modernise agricultural techniques in the country.

The partners agreed on a suitable proper site, and it was decided that there should be a bottom-up consultation process with the stakeholders: growers, landowners, traditional leaders, community leaders and so on. After the formal agreement with the majority of the population had been gained, an area of 25 000 hectares was defined for the project, of which 12 500 hectares have been planted.

Right from the start, an agreement was made: plots of land would be preserved around existing villages and dwellings to allow homeowners who did not wish to be involved in the project to keep their land.

The cooperation established between the government and the Socfin Group made it possible to introduce new agricultural techniques on Sierra Leonean soil, and thus facilitated the implementation of a soil refertilisation programme. Amongst other things, this included the introduction of ground-cover plants on depleted soils and capacity-building measures for farmers.



### Fact sheet

- > Creation and privatisation: 2010
- > 1 site: Sahn Malen
- > 1 palm oil mill 30 T/h (extensible to 60 T/h)
- > 12 349 ha of palm oil trees
- > 10 000 T of palm oil
- > 3 583 employees
- > 4 656 students
- > 7 villages
- > 0 health center / health staff: 0
- > [Blog](#)

(<http://www.sacsierraleone.com>) and Face

Once the project had been established, agricultural work began in 2011 with the creation of nurseries and the gradual replanting of 12 500 hectares of palm groves. The first palm fruit bunches were harvested in 2015. Ultimately, the plantation will be the leading palm oil supplier on the Sierra Leonean market and among the largest employers in the country.

Drawing on its recognised experience in Africa, the Socfin Group is involved, through its project in Sierra Leone, in providing material, human and financial support to the Malen Chiefdom region and the surrounding peoples.

[hc\\_ref=NEWSFEED\)](#)

> [Financial data \(/en/sac\)](#)

> [SAC - Map - KML file](#)

[\(/frontend/files/userfiles/files/SAC%20-%20Map%20-%20KML%20file.pdf\)](#)

(Data 2018)



SAC has only used 60 % of its concession for palm groves, because it wishes to conserve the wetlands - where a wider range of ...

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SAC is one of the largest private employers in Sierra Leone. Its development thus has a significant impact in the region, wher...

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SAC is committed to a corporate social responsibility initiative, in accordance with the criteria set out in the Memorandum of...

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## SAC news



[SAC has provided resources for communities to build fish ponds \(/en/news/detail/sac-has-provided-resources-for-communities-to-build-fish-ponds\)](#)

20 March, 2018 in [Press review](#)

[\(/en/news/category/press-review\)](#) , [Sierra Leone](#)

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In Socfin's continuous efforts to improve the well being of Malen Community, Socfin has provided resources for communities to build fish ponds in some areas in Upper Malen.



[Socfin tractors started ploughing the bolilands in Hongai today \(/en/news/detail/socfin-tractors-started-ploughing-the-bolilands-in-hongai-today\)](#)

10 March, 2018 in [Press review](#)

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The mechanical cultivation of 600 acres of bolilands will be done in 2018 in preparation for the growing of rice for communities in Malen under the CSR project. Mr. Joseph Belmoh oversees the prog...



[Malen Chiefdom has a new Ambulance donated by Socfin \(/en/news/detail/malen-chiefdom-has-a-new-ambulance-donated-by-socfin\)](#)

8 March, 2018 in [Press review](#)

[\(/en/news/category/press-review\)](#) , [Sierra Leone](#)

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Malen Chiefdom has a new Ambulance donated by Socfin. This adds to the first Ambulance donated by Socfin in 2012 which will now become the back up.