

Sierra Leone

Source: TH

Several islands of Sierra Leone are facing imminent submergence due to rising sea levels, marking one of West Africa's most severe cases of climate-induced displacement.

Sierra Leone:

- Location: Sierra Leone is a tropical country on the southwest coast of West Africa, bordered by Guinea (north and east), Liberia (south), and the Atlantic Ocean (west).
 - It includes island groups like the Banana and Turtle Islands, known for tourism and cultural significance.
 - The Vision Its capital Freetown is home to one of the world's largest natural harbours.



- **History:** Sierra Leone was colonized in **1787** by formerly enslaved people from **England**, followed by settlers from **Nova Scotia in 1792** and **Jamaica in 1800**.
 - Initially managed by the Sierra Leone Company, it became a British crown colony in 1808 and gained independence in 1961.
- Geography & Ecology: It features a coastal belt of <u>mangrove</u> swamps, wooded hill country, an upland plateau, and mountains in the east. It has a tropical climate.
 - The highest mountain peak is **Mount Bintumani (Loma Mansa)** and major rivers include the **Rokel, Taia, Moa, and Sewa.**
- **Economy:** Primarily **agrarian**, with **subsistence farming** being the main livelihood. It is also rich in mineral resources such as **diamonds**, **gold**, **bauxite**, **and rutile** (**titanium dioxide**).
- International Engagement:
 - Member of the **International Solar Alliance (ISA)**.
 - India was one of the first contributors to the <u>UN Mission in Sierra Leone (UNAMSIL)</u>, deploying a 4,000-strong military contingent in **2000-2001**.

