

Advocacy toolkit case studies

IMPROVING WATER AND SANITATION IN LIBERIA

THEME: Water, sanitation and hygiene

ADVOCACY APPROACH: Working in alliances and coalitions

The Association of Evangelicals of Liberia (AEL), a Tearfund partner, is well known for water and sanitation work. Together with other non-governmental organisations (NGOs), development partners, civil society, United Nations (UN) agencies, the private sector and government ministries, they drafted a national policy framework to ensure that citizens would have access to safe, clean water and improved sanitation facilities, provided for by law.

The policy sought for all stakeholders to do the following:

- to establish and strengthen the institutional capacity of the water and sanitation sector
- to ensure equity and prioritised service provision; to develop a monitoring system
- to improve financing mechanisms.

There followed several months of lobbying and asking for the policy framework to be approved but finally the president signed it. This endorsement gave AEL and other actors in the sector a clear action plan, which, with the coordinated response of other actors, resulted in increased efforts to improve water and sanitation facilities for the citizens of Liberia.