

Case Study - Sento Kargbo, Sierra Leone

This is Sento Kargbo, she lives with her family in Sierra Leone. Sento spends most of her time farming to grow food for her family.

Farming is the main way of life for many people in the rural communities of Africa. Women like Sento are often overloaded with the tough and tiring farm work and household chores meaning they miss out on social activities.



However, this is not the only problem they face. Because of their gender, women like Sento are not allowed to own the land they farm, which means if their husband dies they may lose their land and their only source of income and food.

In addition to this, women are treated dishonestly by seed lenders, who charge unfairly large sums for low quality seeds.

Sento, who is in charge of a local women's group, says:

“The poor crops we grew provided little return, which meant we could not afford the materials our children needed to attend school.”

Action Aid has helped Sento by providing her with seeds and funding so that she could hire the right tools to grow her crops successfully. This means she no longer has to take out expensive loans to pay for the seeds.

Sento now grows enough to feed her family, with more to sell for money. Best of all, she can now afford to send her children to school, allowing them the chance of a better future.