

## **Exploring Success Stories in Sierra Leone.**

### **MDG 4 – Child Health**



What John said about child health:



In the past Sierra Leone had among the largest number of child deaths in the world. To make this better, Sierra Leone made health care free for children under 5.

This plan was partly paid for by the UK government. An important part of Oxfam's work is to persuade the UK government to continue supporting free health care in poor countries like Sierra Leone.

What may seem like a small cost to us in the UK can be too much for people to afford in Sierra Leone. One Mum I spoke with told me her market business made £4.70 on a good day. This money had to support the whole family and buy new stock to sell the next day. So a hospital bill for £1.60 for her baby's medicine was very expensive.

Since health care was made free the number of children being brought to hospital has increased. In the photo above a nurse gives 6-month-old Zainab a vaccination so she doesn't catch dangerous diseases.

## **Exploring Success Stories in Sierra Leone.**

### **MDG 4 – Child Health**

#### **BEFORE**

- What might have stopped Zainab's mum taking her to hospital in the past?
- What do you think Zainab's might have worried about in the past?
- What was happening in the UK in an attempt to improve health for children in Sierra Leone?

---

#### **AFTER**

- What has happened in Sierra Leone to improve the health of young children?
- What changed in Sierra Leone after free health care for children was introduced?
- Why is it important for children to have vaccinations?