



## HRCSL ACCESS TO WATER MONITORING REPORT VALIDATED

Freetown - 20<sup>th</sup> May 2022

The Human Rights Commission of Sierra Leone (HRCSL) has held a validation workshop of a draft monitoring report on Access to Safe and Affordable Water in Freetown.



Between April and May 2021, the Commission assessed access to clean, safe, and affordable water in selected schools, health facilities, communities, and police stations in Freetown with the aim of gauging the government of Sierra Leone's fulfillment of its obligation to ensure clean, safe, and affordable water and how it affects the enjoyment of other fundamental human rights.

The Chairperson, Madam Patricia Narsu Ndanema stated that the Commission decided in 2021 to pay some attention to the issue of water because there are several rights that hinge on it.



"We actually did not do a nationwide assessment but we had selected communities to assess the water situation in the country. We went to different communities and hospitals and had an engagement with key authorities and other community people, as well as site visitations," she said. She added that at the end of the monitoring exercise, the commission decided to document its findings and also a monitoring report.



The validation was undertaken by representatives from schools, communities, health facilities, and police stations that were targeted during the monitoring in 2021 to make their inputs into the final monitoring report.

The representatives welcomed the draft report and urged the Commission to ensure that recommendations proffered in the report reach the relevant authorities for prompt actions.