



Sierra Leone Legal Information Institute

Can it be a tool for promoting the rule of law?



- **Background**
 - Sierra Leone
 - Special Court for Sierra Leone
- **“Incentive for Innovation”**
- **Development Framework**
- **Progress and Prospect**
- **Potential User – Law Reform Commission of SL**



Law via the Internet 2011

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CIVIL WAR (1991 – 2002)

- 250,000 killed
- Control over resources (Blood diamonds)
- Reign of terror through systematic and widespread amputations
- Lome Peace Agreement (1999)



*Special Court
for Sierra Leone*

Mandate

to try those **who bear the greatest responsibility** for serious violations of international humanitarian law and Sierra Leonian law committed in the territory of Sierra Leone since 30 November 1996”

- First “Hybrid” Court
- Voluntary contributions
- Sitting in place of conflict



Incentives for Innovation

- **Legacy**
- **Peacebuilding**
 - **Rule of Law**
 - **Access to Justice**



Development Framework

- **Consultation with potential stakeholders**
- **Guiding Principles**
- **Development Approach**
- **Funding Strategy**



National Stakeholders

- **SL Judiciary**
- **Parliament**
- **SL Bar Association**
- **University of Sierra Leone**
- **Law Reform Commission**
- **Human Rights Commission**
- **Anti Corruption Commission**
- **Civil Society**



Guiding Principles

- A legal information institute in Sierra Leone will be developed to benefit all Sierra Leonians by way of providing access to justice and assisting to strengthen the rule-of-law
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- The success of a legal information institute is not possible without direct and active participation of national actors. Therefore, its development can only proceed when there is express commitment from relevant national actors.



Guiding Principles

- The development and operation of a legal information institute in Sierra Leone should be consistent with the principles as set out in the Declaration on Free Access to Law, with a view to participating in the global movement as soon as it is practical to do so.
- The optimal use of limited resources cannot be overemphasized.



Development Strategy

- Pilot Project
- Strategic Partnerships
- Relevance –
 - Justice Sector Reform Strategy
 - Goal 1 - Safe communities
 - Goal 2 - Access to justice
 - Goal 3 - Strengthened rule of law
 - Goal 4 – Improved Justice Service Delivery
- Security of Content
- Training and Advocacy



DATABASES

- Laws of Sierra Leone
- Court of Appeal
- Supreme Court
- High Court
- Special Court

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Home

Welcome to the pilot website for the Sierra Leone Legal Information Institute. SierraLII is a legacy project of the Special Court for Sierra Leone with generous sponsorship from the Open Society Institute.

This will remain a pilot site whilst we complete the uploading of all the materials which we would like to put at your disposal.

RELATED LINKS

- LawCite
- Sierra Leone Web
- Special Court of Sierra Leone

SEARCH





Prospects for Success

- **Opportunities**

- **Momentum**
- **Buy-in from national stakeholders**
- **Positive reviews from international donors**
- **FALM family**

- **Constraints**

- **Sustainability**
 - **Closure of SCSL**
 - **Funding**



Law Reform Commission

- capacitate the Commission to do a thorough and better work
- gives the Commission an opportunity to be able to come up with objective opinions regarding the review of certain laws after having looked at various legislation outside of Sierra Leone
- it will also help the Commission to meet its target, as research work is now made simpler.