



SLDN SIERRA LEONE DIASPORA NETWORK

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FORM

Please check that you comply with the eligibility criteria for full membership of SLDN before completing this form. All applying for membership should provide appropriate details of eligibility as outlined below (page 3-6). This form also serves as an initial consultation document. As members, you will be able to influence the future direction of SLDN.

1. Membership Category

- Organisation (Full)
- Individual (Full)
- Associate (Organisation)
- Associate (Individual)

2. Contact Details

Full Name of Organisation / Association / Individual / Business

Full Postal Address _____

Tel _____ Fax _____

Email _____ Website _____

Section 3 – 4 for Organisations/ Associations/ Businesses Only

3. Contact person for correspondence

Name _____

Position (if applicable) _____

Individual Email _____ Tel _____



4. Organisation / Association/ Business structure and activities

What is the current structure of your organisation/ association/ business? (i.e. Board, Director, Co-ordinator, how many staff & volunteers etc)

Are you a registered charity/company?

Yes No Process of applying

Please describe briefly the main activities / interest(s) of your Organisation / Association in Sierra Leone

Please describe briefly the main activities / interest(s) of your Organisation / Association in the UK

6. Membership benefits

What do you hope to gain from the membership of SLDN?

What can you offer to SLDN?



I / We hereby apply for full membership of The Sierra Leone Diaspora Network (SLDN). We/I make my first year's annual membership fee: £ _____

I / We agree to be bound by the constitution of SLDN, and we/I undertake to aspire to SLDN's principles in all areas of work.

Name _____

Signature _____

Date _____

Position (if applicable) _____

Annual Membership fee categories:

- | | | |
|------------------------|--------------------------|-----|
| Organisation (Full) | <input type="checkbox"/> | £20 |
| Individual (Full) | <input type="checkbox"/> | £10 |
| Associate (Org) | <input type="checkbox"/> | £50 |
| Associate (Individual) | <input type="checkbox"/> | £ 5 |

7. Payment methods

Bank Payments as follows:

Nationwide - Treasurer's Trust Account

Account Name: Sierra Leone Diaspora Network

Sort code: 07-00-93

Bank Account: 33333334

Roll Number / Ref: 0225/703808565

Account Holding Branch: 133 High Holborn WC1V 6PN

Payments by cheque should be sent with the completed form to our correspondence address:

SLDN Membership, 35 Chelsfield Gardens, London SE26 4DJ

Or email: info@sldn.org.uk

(See overleaf for sectors/areas of interest)



Your area(s) of interest; Please tick all that apply:

Sector/Industry	
Agriculture	
Arts and Culture	
Building Industry/Architecture	
Business/Import-Export (incl. Trade and general Investment analysis)	
Diaspora Volunteering/Not-for-profit	
Education	
Empowering Women	
Energy (incl. Water and Power)	
Entertainment	
Financial Services (Incl. Banking/Insurance/Remittances)	
Health and Sanitation (Incl. The Medical field and Public Health)	
Human Resources/Skills Deployment/Career Advice/Capacity-Building	
Infrastructure – incl. Road-Building/Maintenance	
Legal Affairs	
Local Community Projects	
Marine Resources (incl. Fishing and Leisure activities)	
Marketing/PR	
Media-Awareness/Monitoring/Communication/Broadcast/Journalism	
Mining	
Procurement	
Provincial/Freetown (if, yes, state which province: E/M/N/S, or FT)	
Real Estate	
Social Work	
Telecommunications	
Tourism (incl. Eco-tourism); Hotel and Restaurant Trade	
Trade Regulations	
Transportation	
Youth Employment	



Agreed terms:

- SLDN is a member-based network in the UK & Ireland
 - We will develop criteria for membership – payment, voting rights
- Categorisation of membership
 - Associates/partners/ 'friends'
 - Individuals & organisation

Full membership

Conditions/criteria:

If you would like to apply for full membership of SLDN after reading the following criteria, please complete the form and return it to **SLDN Membership, 35 Chelsfield Gardens, London SE26 4DJ**

- In applying for membership of SLDN, you must undertake to aspire to SLDN's Principles and work within its Code of Conduct (copies of these are available upon request);
- SLDN must be satisfied that the organisation reflects the spirit and intentions of the membership and would not bring it into disrepute;
- A fee is payable to become a member of SLDN and annually thereafter at a rate relating to whether you're an organisation or an individual, which will be determined from time to time by the Steering Committee;
- An application for membership may be approved or rejected by the Committee. The Committee shall have the right for good and sufficient reason to terminate the membership of any member **provided that** the member concerned shall have a right to be heard before a final decision is made.

Specific to organisations:

Full membership is open to all voluntary organisations whether large national bodies or small community groups and development agencies working at a local level. To be eligible for full membership of SLDN, your organisation must fulfil the following criteria:

- Your organisation must be a self-governing body of people who have joined together voluntarily to take action for the benefit of the community, and established otherwise than for financial gain. Your organisation does not have to be a registered charity, but if it is not, the aims, objectives and methods of working of your organisation must be written down in a publicly available document;
- You should have a stated policy in existence on equal opportunities, or have a commitment to improved practice in this regard.



Benefits: specific to organisations/individuals:

- Full access to the Sierra Leone Investment Information Portal (SLIIP);
- Networking with other Sierra Leone Diaspora organisation and collaboration on future projects in Sierra Leone;
- Regular updates on investment opportunities in Sierra Leone;
- Employment/Career opportunities;
- Volunteering opportunities in Sierra Leone;
- Access to information directly relating to various sectors in Sierra Leone.
- Networking, Training and Events

Annual General Meeting (AGM)

SLDN intends to host an AGM at the earliest opportunity; this first AGM will give members an opportunity to vote for an Executive Committee, which will replace the present Steering Committee. The AGM will also give members a chance to discuss SLDN's activities and future programme of events. Full members are entitled to vote on issues put before the AGM and can also put forward candidates for and vote in Executive Committee elections.

Sub-committees and thematic action Groups

Groups of members can form sub-committees to discuss specific areas of work and topics such as advocacy, publicity and outreach, accessing funding and capacity building etc.

Learning and Training

SLDN's future training will consist of a package of related workshops focusing on areas such as:

- International programme work
- Accessing funds
- Organisational development
- Advocacy and communication

Policy Issues

Regular information on UK and EU policy issues relating to Sierra Leone and on other issues of common concern.

Facts about Sierra Leoneans in the UK

- Remittances account for the greatest amount of financial support to Sierra Leone;
- However, aid to Sierra Leone has often been dictated without any formal input from Sierra Leoneans;
- Sierra Leoneans are invited to have a say in their own and world affairs;
- Sierra Leoneans are amongst the most highly-educated ethnic groups in the UK;
- As members of the Diaspora, we have access to systems and information that can influence the perception of Sierra Leone and Sierra Leoneans.



Associate Membership

Condition/Criteria:

If you would like to apply for Associate Membership of SLDN after reading the following criteria, please complete the form and return it to **SLDN Membership, 35 Chelsfield Gardens, London SE26 4DJ**

Associate Membership shall include persons, organisations whose interests are concerned with Sierra Leone or the United Kingdom and who reside in either country (a one-off registration fee will be payable as determined from time to time by The Committee) Associated Membership can be in two categories:

Corporate Members - this shall include companies and enterprises whose interests are concerned with Sierra Leone or the United Kingdom and who reside in either country (a one-off registration fee will be payable as determined from time to time by The Committee)

Honorary Members - those individuals who have rendered outstanding service to the Forum or have made valuable contributions to the expansion of trade, cultural or economic relations between Sierra Leone and the United Kingdom (no subscription fee payable)

- In applying for membership of SLDN, an organisation or individual must undertake to aspire to SLDN's Principles.
- SLDN must be satisfied that the organisation reflects the spirit and intentions of the membership and would not bring it into disrepute.
- In order to be an associate member of SLDN, an organisation or individual should be involved in the support of Sierra Leonean organisations in the Diaspora and/or in Sierra Leone through funding, research, information provision, training or other services.
- Associate members will include organisations such as registered charities, research organisations, relevant departments of universities and educational institutions, trusts, foundations, co-operatives, friendly societies and companies limited by guarantee.
- Other services to which full members are entitled are only available to associate members with the approval of the Executive Committee.
- A fee is payable on joining SLDN and annually thereafter at a rate relating to the size of the organisation, which will be determined from time to time by the Executive Committee.
- The membership of any organisation or individual which fails to pay its annual subscription within three months of the beginning of the financial year will lapse.



- Any associate member organisation, which is considered to bring SLDN into disrepute, will have its membership reviewed by the Executive Committee, which is empowered to revoke membership on the basis of a simple majority of votes cast in person or by proxy at an Executive.

Regional Group Affiliation

SLDN seeks to encourage people from all regions in Sierra Leone to work together on issues through member groups. The roles of groups include raising awareness, influencing policy and improving practice for their region of origin. Each regional group will be co-ordinated by one person. Details of the group's contact, terms of reference, previous meetings and reports activities will be available through the co-ordinator. Terms of reference will be defined by the group and agreed by the SLDN Executive Committee.