

Remittances

SIERRA LEONE

West and Central Africa



Leveraging Diaspora Remittances on Post Ebola Recovery in Sierra Leone

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Requesting entity
**Office of Diaspora Affairs,
Office of the President,
Republic of Sierra Leone**



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Background

The Office of Diaspora Affairs (ODA), within the Office of the President of Sierra Leone, has been in operation since 2008 as to sustain the interest of citizens of the country who are currently living and working abroad. During the outbreak of Ebola in Sierra Leone, diaspora members have raised and mobilized substantial

amounts of financial and material resources (mainly due to the effective awareness raising, advocacy, lobbying and fundraising activities organized by the Office of Diaspora Affairs). The Sierra Leone Diaspora has also collected much needed materials towards the relief efforts. However, the lack of a formal

structure has reduced the impact potential of such remittances. Better legal policies on Remittances, Diaspora and Migration, as well as concrete incentives for those sending money home, is much needed in the country.

Objective

This Technical Assistance Intervention aims at strengthening the institutional capacity of the Office of Diaspora Affairs and other relevant ministries as to leverage Sierra Leone's Diaspora remittances in productive investments.

Activities

Drafting of a Diaspora Remittance Strategy that promotes productive investments through leveraging remittances for development;

Raising the debate, nationally, on how to leverage the remittances by meeting with different informants and key stakeholders;

Develop and share recommendations broadly among different stakeholders.

Expected results

Key stakeholders of this initiative have a common understanding on the matter and all will work together to avoid duplication and ensure a multiplier effect;

The ODA's role in the Government is improved as an entity facilitating links with Sierra Leoneans on the development and promotion of different business ventures;

Improved policy development and partnerships among African governments, Diaspora, Donor community and other related stakeholders builds stronger more responsive and capable Sierra Leonean public and private sector institutions.