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IMPACT

### REGION

SIERRA LEONE

### SUBJECT

CONFLICT DIAMONDS  
VIOLENCE  
CIVIL WAR  
CORRUPTION

### TOPIC

DIAMOND INDUSTRY  
REVOLUTIONARY UNITED FRONT (RUF)  
LEBANESE COMMUNITY  
PEACE



"This report presents an overview and analysis of the situation in Sierra Leone with respect to the diamond industry since United Nations intervention in 2000. It evaluates efforts made by the Sierra Leone government to ensure greater transparency and probity in diamond mining, purchasing, valuation and oversight, and examines the effect of the diamond certification scheme. The report also examines a much discussed but rarely studied phenomenon: the role of Sierra Leone's large Lebanese community, which dominates the diamond industry and presents major obstacles to meaningful reform. The scourge of Sierra Leone's diamonds over the past decade has been the war and the RUF rebels; the wider historical and present-day scourge is corruption. The paper concludes that in the final analysis, Sierra Leone's recovery from decades of economic meltdown and political and social turmoil will depend, to a very large extent, on how it manages its vitally important extractive sector, especially the diamond industry. "

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Sierra Leonean-Lebanese is an ethnic group in Sierra Leone ; they are Sierra Leonean citizens who are descendants of Lebanese settlers from Lebanon who settled in Sierra Leone during the late nineteenth century . The majority of the Sierra Leonean - Lebanese population ( at about 73 , 000 ) are biracial , of partial indigenous Sierra Leonean ancestry , while ( about 36 , 000 ) are of non - mixed ancestry [ <http://www.joshuaproject.net/peoples.php?rop3=105688> ] . \* Gberie , Lansana ( 2002 ) " War and Peace in Sierra Leone: Diamonds , Corruption and the Lebanese Connection " . Partnership Africa Canada Occasional Paper No . Vol . 6 ( Accessed on July 11 , 2007 [ [http://blooddiamond.pacweb.org/docs/sierraleone2002\\_e.pdf](http://blooddiamond.pacweb.org/docs/sierraleone2002_e.pdf) here ] ) . 21. Gberie , L. (2002) War and Peace in Sierra Leone: Diamonds, Corruption and the Lebanese Connection. Ottawa: Partnership Africa Canada. 22. Government of Sierra Leone (2015). "Beyond the World Conservation Strategy: Integrating Development and the Environment in Latin America and the Caribbean". In P. Jacobs and D. A. Munro (Eds.), Conservation with Equity: Strategy for Sustainable Development (Cambridge: International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources, 1987), pp. 35 - 54.