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Season's greetings from the Invest Salone team and thank you to all our partners for making the past few months so productive!

As part of our work to encourage investment into Sierra Leone, we **co-hosted a delegation of nine major international investment institutions**. During the five-day trip, participants visited 20 firms and interacted with around 50 more through several events such as a pitch night where entrepreneurs pitched and received feedback on their businesses.

The **launch of the first local currency corporate bond** approved by the Bank of Sierra Leone marked a significant milestone in the development of Sierra Leone's capital markets, paving the way for a new and alternate source of private sector finance.

The **PROSPER Salone grant scheme**, which supported the development of the Local Currency Bond, **opened a new round of funding** for other innovative investors developing projects that could have a positive social and environmental impact in Sierra Leone.

Buyer outreach is an essential component in helping businesses to grow and we attended London's World Travel Market and African Fashion Week to support several export-ready Sierra Leonean firms to promote themselves internationally.

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**Leone's carbon market** was included in a compilation of expert analysis and case studies intended to help inform decision-making around the role of climate finance in supporting mitigation and adaptation.

Follow our social media channels for more updates on Invest Salone's work in Sierra Leone.









### **LATEST NEWS**



# New round of funding for investors supporting sustainable development in Sierra Leone

Invest Salone has opened a new round of funding from its PROSPER Salone initiative – a grant-matching facility aimed at driving investment with positive social and environmental impact in Sierra Leone. Read more >>



# New study analyses the potential of Sierra Leone's carbon market

A new case study of Sierra Leone's carbon sector highlights the sector's considerable potential but stresses the urgent need for a carbon policy and regulatory framework, to ensure credible international investment.

Read more >>

### First local currency corporate bond to be issued in Sierra Leone

Sierra Leone's nascent capital market recently achieved a significant milestone with the launch of the country's first local currency corporate bond, approved by the Bank of Sierra Leone. Read more >>

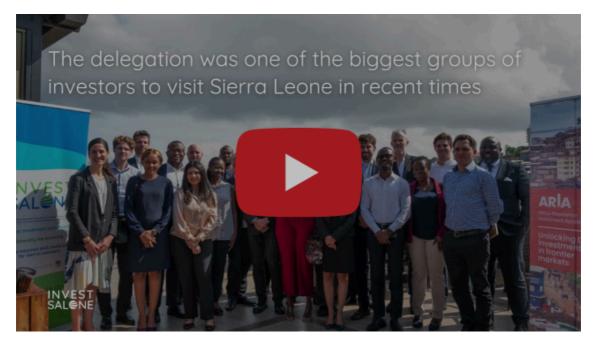
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# International investment delegation commits to continued support for Sierra Leone business sector

A visiting delegation of nine major international investment institutions with experience in developing countries met with more than 30 Sierra Leonean small and medium-sized enterprises to discuss tactics for improving Sierra Leone's capital markets and access to finance. Read more >>



International investment institutions join Sierra Leonean SMEs to discuss access to finance

The visit concluded with a networking reception for business and public sector leaders, and a commitment to work with the British High Commission and Invest Salone to support investment into Sierra Leone. Read more >>

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Sierra Leonean tour operators showcase their services at major international travel fair

As part of their support to Sierra Leone's tourism sector, Invest Salone attended the prestigious annual World Travel Market in London with two of Sierra Leone's leading tourism and destination management companies – Visit Sierra Leone and Tourism is Life. Read more >>

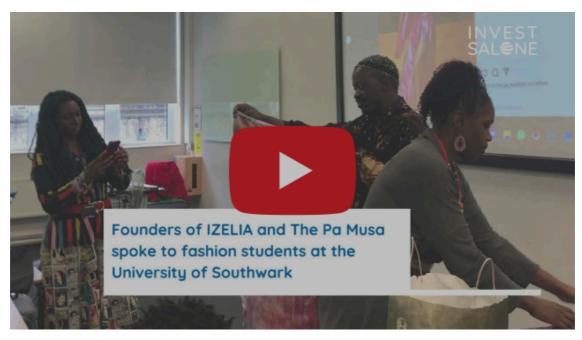
More news

## **SOCIAL MEDIA**

Sierra Leonean designers showcased their designs at Africa Fashion Week London to help Sierra Leonean fashion firms become more internationally

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Sierra Leonean designers showcased at Africa Fashion Week London



Carbon credits are helping fund clean cookstoves for rural communities. Invest Salone visited the Livɛ Fyn programme, a partnership between DelAgua and GoSL, which aims to provide clean cookstoves to 1.2 million rural households – reducing fuel expenses, the time needed to collect firewood, indoor air pollution and pressure on forests.



We met with Gola Rainforest
Conservation LG (GRCLG) in
Kenema to discuss the REDD+
framework, forest-friendly cocoa
production and eco-tourism. GRCLG
is a collaboration between RSPB
Nature's Voice, the Conservation
Society of Sierra Leone and GoSL to
protect this remarkable rainforest.
#ClimateAction.

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Facilitated by Invest Salone and ARIA, a visiting delegation of nine international impact finance institutions with experience in developing countries, discussed tactics for improving Sierra Leone's capital markets with over 30 Sierra Leonean SMEs this evening.



The in-depth discussion centred around sector-specific challenges and barriers, success stories, loan products available for SMEs and practical ways on how DFI support and investment in the financial sector could improve access to SME finance.









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