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*Welcome to the eighth issue of Invest Salone's quarterly newsletter*

In September, **Invest Salone attended the Aspen Network of Development Entrepreneurs (ANDE) annual conference**. Invest Salone consultant, Pooja Melwani, was invited to speak and shared our experience of the broad range of private sector development strategies we employ to support the private and public sectors in tackling constraints to doing business in Sierra Leone.

We have developed an **Investment Readiness Toolkit for Financial Institutions** to support financial institutions interested in applying for wholesale funding to on-lend to businesses and individuals.

Invest Salone organised a trip for three Sierra Leonean fashion designers to showcase their work at **Africa Fashion Week London** and to build connections with future buyers.

As part of a **new Q&A series**, we spoke to Capitol Foods about their **experience as a COMPETE Salone grantee**. COMPETE Salone is a competitive grant initiative that supports innovative businesses in Sierra Leone.

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



# LATEST NEWS



## **Find out more about Invest Salone at the ANDE Annual Conference 2023**

The ANDE conference – under the theme of “Accelerating Action: Small Business Solutions and the SDGs” – aimed to identify how small and growing businesses can enhance their impact on the Sustainable Development Goals over the next seven years.

Invest Salone showcased its participation at the conference by launching a dedicated [microsite](#) where you can find Invest Salone’s talk and presentation, as well as information on some of the firms we work with and downloadable resources for investors and SMEs. [Read more >>](#)

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### **Invest Salone releases toolkit to help Sierra Leone's banks apply for green growth finance**

A new toolkit, designed and released by Invest Salone, will help guide Sierra Leonean credit institutions through the complex process of applying for wholesale funding for green growth, which they can on-lend to businesses and individuals. The [Investment Readiness Toolkit for Financial Institutions in Sierra Leone](#) is tailored to the needs of financial institutions that accept and manage deposits and make loans, such as commercial and community banks, as well as microfinance institutions. [Read more >>](#)

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### **Sierra Leonean designers showcased at Africa Fashion Week London**

Sierra Leonean designers showcased their designs at Africa Fashion Week London (27–29 October), as part of an initiative to help Sierra Leonean fashion

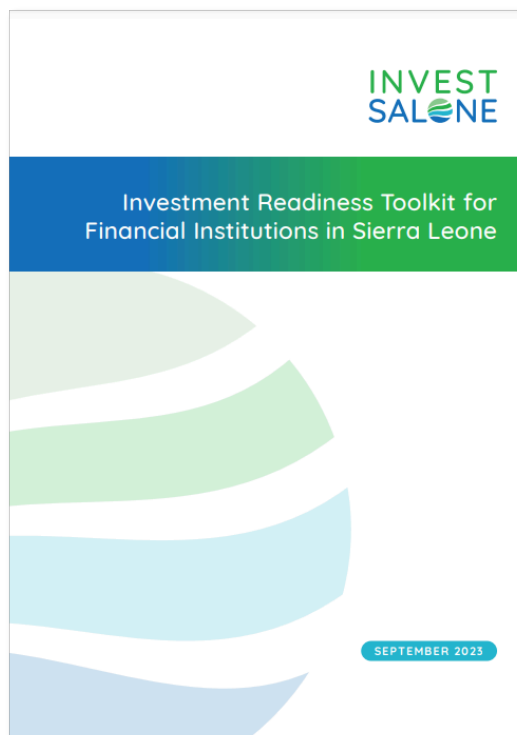


firms become more internationally competitive and gain a foothold in Africa's growing corner of the US\$1.5 trillion global textiles and clothing industry. This trip is an excellent opportunity for fashion buyers – who select and order what is sold in stores around the world – to find out more about Sierra Leonean fashion. [Read more >>](#)

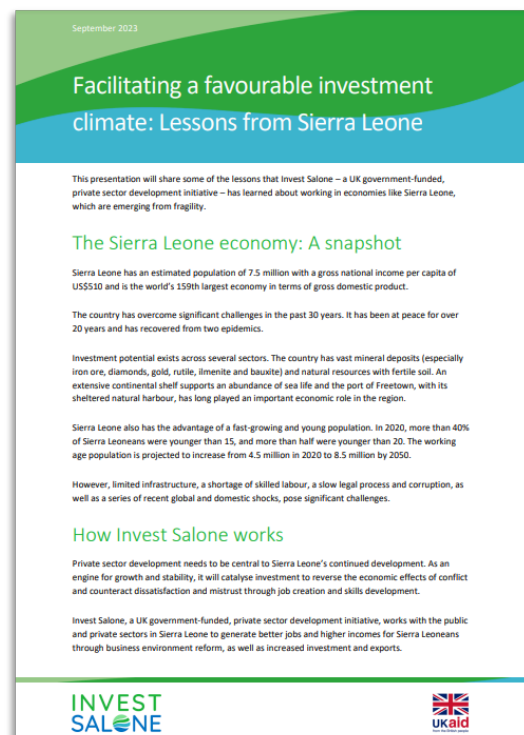
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## PUBLICATIONS



[Investment Readiness Toolkit for Financial Institutions in Sierra Leone](#)



[Facilitating a favourable investment climate: Lessons from Sierra Leone](#)

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## How COMPETE Salone delivered a complete package of support for Capitol Foods

Capitol Foods, a Sierra Leonean food and beverage company, was awarded funding in 2021 through the COMPETE Salone grant initiative.

Discover how Capitol Foods maximised the COMPETE Salone process by drawing on Invest Salone's support, guidance and resources in this Q&A.

Visit our resource bank

# SOCIAL MEDIA



Here in Sierra Leone, we collaborated with [@kibobofred](#) and [@TheBettsFirm](#) on a roundtable with [#SierraLeone](#)'s private sector to discuss the government's medium-term revenue strategy and to look at avenues for public-private coordination.



With a COMPETE Salone climate-smart agriculture grant from Invest Salone, Sierra Leonean passion fruit business, Wangu, is supporting smallholder cocoa farmers in the Gola Rainforest to grow passion fruit as an alternative source of income during the hungry season.



Creating new partnerships & connections - Invest Salone's team are pleased to be attending this week's [@AspenANDE](#) conference with Absolute Barrkee's Mamadu Jan Jalloh & Watu SL's Mohamed Sheriff Bah. [#Entrepreneurship](#) [#SierraLeone](#)



Women contribute >70% of the agricultural labour force in [#SierraLeone](#) but have less access to good quality land & key inputs such as fertiliser, seeds & machinery. Yatta Sama, President of the National Federation of Farmers is an important voice at today's [#FeedSalone](#) launch.



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