



# Challenges and Opportunities in Post-Conflict Sierra Leonean Business: An Action Research Study

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## Abstract

Post-conflict Sierra Leone faces significant challenges in economic recovery, including infrastructure damage, corruption, and limited access to finance. The study employed qualitative methods involving interviews with key informants from the business community and focus group discussions among entrepreneurs. Data was analysed using thematic analysis. Businesses report a significant increase in foreign investment opportunities, especially in sectors like agriculture and mining, despite ongoing security issues and bureaucratic hurdles. Despite challenges such as corruption and infrastructure limitations, there is growing interest from investors and potential partnerships for businesses willing to navigate these obstacles. Businesses should prioritise forming strategic alliances with local governments and international organizations to address regulatory barriers. They also need to invest in building resilience against future conflicts and economic shocks. Post-conflict Sierra Leone, business opportunities, private sector development, investment climate

**Keywords:** *Post-conflict, Sierra Leone, African economies, qualitative methods, developmental challenges, business environment, corruption mitigation*

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