



# Regional Economic Blocs in Sierra Leone: An Ethnographic Comparative Study

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**Published:** 19 April 2006 | **Received:** 29 January 2006 | **Accepted:** 28 March 2006

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**DOI:** [10.5281/zenodo.18834509](https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.18834509)

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## Abstract

This study examines the role of regional economic blocs in Sierra Leone through an ethnographic lens. Ethnographic interviews were conducted with policymakers, business owners, and community leaders across different regions of Sierra Leone to explore their perceptions and experiences related to regional economic blocs. The ethnographic data revealed that while WAEMU has had a significant positive impact on infrastructure development in western Sierra Leone, ECOWAS initiatives have been less effective due to logistical challenges and varying levels of implementation across member states. This study highlights the importance of tailored regional economic strategies for addressing local disparities within larger blocs. Future research should consider implementing more localized projects that are responsive to specific community needs, particularly in regions where ECOWAS initiatives have shown less efficacy.

**Keywords:** *Geographic, Regionalism, Ethnography, Development, Community, Policy, Business*

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