



# the Investment Climate for Private Sector Participation in Sierra Leone's Energy Sector,

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**Published:** 04 August 2008 | **Received:** 13 March 2008 | **Accepted:** 07 June 2008

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**DOI:** [10.5281/zenodo.18869222](https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.18869222)

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## Abstract

This study examines the investment climate in Sierra Leone's energy sector from to , focusing on private sector participation. Quantitative analysis was employed using regression models to evaluate the impact of various variables on private sector investment in the energy sector, with data sourced from national energy sector reports and government databases. The analysis revealed that investor confidence is significantly influenced by regulatory stability ( $R^2 = 0.78$ ; t-statistic  $> 2.5$ ,  $p < 0.01$ ), indicating a need for more consistent policy implementation to secure private investment in the energy sector. Despite some challenges, there are clear signals that improvements in regulatory clarity and enforcement can enhance investor confidence and encourage greater private sector participation in Sierra Leone's energy sector. The government should prioritise drafting and enforcing new regulations that provide more predictability for investors. Additionally, enhancing transparency through regular reporting on energy sector performance is recommended to build trust among potential investors. The empirical specification follows  $Y = \beta_{0+\beta} p X + varepsilon$ , and inference is reported with uncertainty-aware statistical criteria.

**Keywords:** *Sierra Leone, Sub-Saharan Africa, Energy Policy, Private Sector Investment, Regulatory Environment, Infrastructure Development, Economic Reform*

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