

Minerals That Build a Nation

Mining & mineral resources

A mining truck rolls out of a rural district loaded with ore bound for export. The community that hosts the mine watches it go, much as it has for generations — with little to show for what leaves, beyond a hole in the ground and a road built to serve the mine, not the village.

WHY THIS MATTERS

Mining has too often operated as a foreign enclave here — employing few Sierra Leoneans in the skilled, well-paid roles, and leaving the communities that bear its costs, the dust, the disrupted land, the trucks on their roads, no better off for it.

WHAT WE'RE PROMISING

A mining sector woven into the national economy, not a set of foreign islands connected to the country only by the road to the port.

HOW WE'LL MAKE IT REAL

- Before we set targets, we'll know the real numbers: an honest mining employment and skills audit, since the country currently has no reliable picture of who the sector actually employs or at what level. Only then can we set local-employment targets that are enforceable rather than aspirational.
- We'll make sure Sierra Leone actually collects what its own laws already say it's owed — stopping the habit of quietly negotiating away the taxes and royalties the law intends companies to pay, which independent analysis suggests has handed back as much as a third of a major project's revenue through waived terms. We're not against investors: certainty and fair, stable terms are worth a great deal to a serious company, and in exchange for moving onto modern fiscal terms, we'll offer exactly that certainty rather than the constant renegotiation that scares capital away.
- The revenue we do secure will be governed by clear, published rules rather than discretion — a fixed, honoured split between what funds the national budget today, what's saved for stabilisation and future generations, and what belongs to the communities where mining actually happens, so none of it can be quietly raided to cover another.
- We'll require rising, independently verified local-content requirements for procurement — with real checks against the old trick of a foreign company operating behind a local name to tick a box on paper — and require every mine to have a genuine, funded environmental-compliance and closure plan from the outset, not a promise made at the ribbon-cutting and abandoned by the time the ore runs out.

"Mineral wealth does not create prosperity. Governance does."