



SIERRA  
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URBAN  
RESEARCH  
CENTRE

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17 - 20 October 2016



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Development  
Planning Unit

The Bartlett



## **PRESS RELEASE: LAUNCH OF SIERRA LEONE URBAN RESEARCH CENTRE: KNOWLEDGE PARTNERSHIP TO ACHIEVE A SUSTAINABLE URBAN FUTURE**

Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> October 2016, Quito.

The press is invited to the **Press Conference** for the launch of the Sierra Leone Urban Research Centre (SLURC) **on Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> at 11:30am at Press Conference Room, Casa de la Cultura Ecuatoriana.**

The SLURC is a globally connected research centre created through a partnership between the Bartlett Development Planning Unit, University College London and the Institute of Geography and Development Studies of Njala University. SLURC operates as an urban learning alliance introducing a new mode of urban knowledge production through partnerships with central and local government, universities, civil society organizations, and local communities. The centre conducts policy oriented research in four priority areas: livelihoods and the city economy, land & housing, urban health, urban vulnerability and resilience. The work of SLURC contributes directly to the monitoring and implementation of the transformative commitments of the New Urban Agenda and SDG Goal 11.

The following speakers:

Mr. Sam Franklyn Gibson, Mayor of Freetown

Mr. Francis Anthony Reffell, Programme Manager, PSPP of YMCA Sierra Leone

Dr. Joseph Macarthy, SLURC co-director of SLURC

Prof. Julio Davila, Director of Bartlett Development Planning Unit, University College London

Dr. Irene Vance, Comic Relief

Following this international launch, we have invited other six other urban alliances (ie partnerships between universities and city actors) from four continents to come to Quito and share their insights and recommendations for SLURC and how urban learning alliances can play a key role in the implementation of the New Urban Agenda.

14:00 - 16:00 Room R2 , Casa de la Cultura Ecuatoriana “Benjamin Carrion”  
**Urban Learning Alliances: Civic engagement through city and university partnerships, Networking Event**

Sierra Leone Urban Research Centre, Observatory of Evictions (São Paulo)  
cLIMAsinRiesgo (Lima), CityLab (Cape Town), Engaged Learning Sheffield (Sheffield), Habitat International Coalition action research partnerships (global).

Twitter: @SLURC\_FT @dpu\_ucl

**For more information:**

<https://www.bartlett.ucl.ac.uk/dpu/sierra-leone-urban-research-centre>  
[www.slurc.org](http://www.slurc.org) (under construction)

**For Media and interviews enquiries:**

Dr. Andrea Rigon Email: [andrea.rigon@ucl.ac.uk](mailto:andrea.rigon@ucl.ac.uk)

Mobile (Ecuador): +593 98 709 3979 Whatsapp: +44 745 322 2786