

AISI-Connect National ICT Profile

SIERRA LEONE (SL)

GENERAL DATA	ICT-INFRASTRUCTURE	ICT POLICIES
Capital: FreeTown	Fixed lines (K) '98: 17	Competition in local loop: Full
98 Population (M): 4.57	97-98 % Fixed Line Growth: 0.0	Competition in telephone terminals: Yes
Currency: SLL	98 Mobile Lines (K): 4	Independent regulator: No
Exch rate (/US\$): 1920.0	Mobile Line Growth (%):	Private Wireless Data allowed: No
Currency Stability:	Cities with Internet POPs: 1	Independent Internet VSAT Allowed: No
97 GDP US\$/person: 209.0	Local Call National Internet: No	VSAT License Fees:
97 Total GDP (\$B):	Dialup Internet subscribers: 150	Satellite Phone access: No
Local Stock Exchange: No	International Bandwidth (Kbps): 128	Universal Service Obligations:
Personal Safety: 3	Internet Hosts: 69	IAP License Fees (\$/yr):
Political Stability:	Internet domains:	Private Phone Kiosks: No
Tertiary ICT Students:	Dialup Internet Cost 20hrs/mnth (\$):	Public VOIP Allowed: No
ICT Training seats:	64K Local Internet link (\$/mnt):	Business Ownership Rules:
ISDN: No	64K Internat Internet Link (\$/mnt):	Repatriation of Profits Rules:
VPN Services: No	Local phone call cost (US\$/hr: 4.2	Restrictions on market entry:
UNDP Human Devel Index:	Monthly tel line rental (\$/mnt):	Export Credit Guarantees:
.	Telephone waiting time/Wait List:	.
.	Internet Access Providers 1	.
.	Mobile Operators:	.
.	Fixed Line Telecom Operators:	.

[Key to table values](#) All figures above in US Dollars (\$)

ICT Profile:

Internet:

The PTO is SierraTel.

Sierratel is also the top level domain administrator for .sl

The first two services expected to become operational are **Securicom** and **Holron**.

Telecommunications:

The telecommunications sector is regulated by the **Ministry of Transport, Communication and the Environment**.

The **Sierra Leone Telecommunications Company** (SierraTel) is the sole supplier of telecommunications services.

Sierra Leone has a very limited telephone network but some modern equipment, including an ISDN capable central switch.

Communication Costs:

A local call costs Le120/minute - US\$4.20/hour

Networking Centres:

This war torn country has had much of its public infrastructure destroyed.

The **Institute of Library, Archives, and Information Studies** at the **University of Sierra Leone** has continued to function intermittently.

Organisational Activities in the ICT Sector:

[Institute of Public Administration and Management \(IPAM\)](#)

[Securicom Consultants](#) One of four private ISPs initially selected to provide retail services by SierraTel. It is in the process of re-establishing its email service following the most recent outbreak of strife. Feyi Asgill feyi@sierratel.sl

[Sierranet](#) The telecommunication parastatal, Sierratel, has acknowledged that the University and Sierranet are necessary Internet service providers. This is a summary of Sierranet team's plans and strategies for continued contributions to ICT development in Sierra Leone.

Sierranet, the organization, evolved from an IDRC sponsored project which was successfully designed and implemented by students and young professionals in 1995 to test and develop the conditions under which a telephone-based computer network can support university research in Sierra Leone.

The Sierranet Project made it possible for

1. the establishment of two functional fidonet email networks:
 - i - Healthnet Sierra Leone - for the health professional community
 - ii - University of Sierra Leone Email System
2. the constructio of the Sierranet Resource Centre to house
 - i - Gateway operations of the existing and emerging networks
 - ii - Documentation collection on information and communication technology development issues relevant to Sierra Leone
 - iii - on going pilot projects and programs
3. the Sierranet team is made up of university graduates at home and abroad who

- i - initially managed the project development and project activity
- ii - now manage the expansion program through collaborative ventures with numerous local and international organizations

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SierraTel The national telecom operators, Sierratel's network has been badly damaged by war. Prior to the recent strife it established a 64Kbps full Internet service via Global One in the US. This is being resold by private ISPs, of which four have been initially selected to provide retail services.

Sierratel is also the top level domain administrator for .sl <http://www.sierratel.sl/> Reginald Pratt postmaster@slover.sierratel.sl

Holron One of four ISPs which have been initially selected to provide retail services. Also provides hardware, software and training. <http://www.holron.com/> Erik Holst-Roness erik@holron.com

Holron Computing Authorised dealer for Apple, Epson, Compaq, MinutMan. <http://www.holron.com/> Eric Holst-Roness erik@holron.com

Source:

AISI-Connect database - <http://www2.sn.apc.org/africa> Telecom/GDP stats source: ITU/World Bank. Internet hosts: Network Wizards

If located in Africa and not listed here, [add your organisation to this page.](#)