

## **We de Pan di Wok**

Panel Discussions – Saturday, July 4 9:00 am – 12:00 pm  
Hilton Hotel/Mall of America  
3800 American Blvd E., Bloomington (952) 854-2100

**8:30 – 9:00 Registration** (outside Hilton Hotel conference room)

**9:00 – 9:40 Overview Session**

Tom Hull, U.S. Ambassador to Sierra Leone 2004-07, SL RPCV 1968-70  
Constance Freeman, Former Peace Corps Director, Cameroon & Congo  
Kyle Peterson, FSG Social Impact Advisors, SL RPCV 1987-89  
Moderator: Larry Carpenter, SL RPCV Ed 1965-68

This session will explore macro African issues relating to Sierra Leone and West Africa. How was the Sierra Leonean election process viewed around Africa and among the world's politicians? Given the Kenyan electoral experience, how can Kenya avoid falling into violence like Sierra Leone did? How does Sierra Leone post-conflict compare with Rwanda post-conflict? What has made Rwanda so successful, and what can Sierra Leone learn from the Rwandan experience? Is African aid working? How does democracy affect economic development and stability?

**9:40 – 10:30 Education – Efforts to Improve Education in Sierra Leone**

Steve Kaback, SL Plymouth Partnership 2008, teacher The Blake School  
Alimami Fakulie Kamara, Schools for Salone  
Rev. Linda Koelman, Operation Classroom MN  
Peggy Murrah, President, Friends of Sierra Leone, SL Ed RPCV 1978-80  
Jim O'Donnell, Sierra Leone Village Project, SL Ed RPCV 1980-82  
Jonathan Rose, Sierra Leone Aid Initiative, Education Coordinator  
Moderator: Dan Howell, Ed RPCV 1979-81

Many kids fell seriously behind in school due to the disruption from the war. Since the war, however, educational enrollment has exploded, and there is a desperate need for qualified teachers, lunches, materials, and secondary schools. How are various organizations helping improve various village schools and the educational system? What is proving to be most effective?

10:30 – 10:40 Break

**10:40 – 11:20 Healthcare in Sierra Leone – What is the Best Prescription?**

Alice Karpeh, Women's Health Initiative, Tikonko, Bo District  
Chris McManus, Midwives on Missions of Service  
Trish Ross, Midwives on Missions of Service  
Brian Siska, Executive Director of Sierra Leone Plymouth Partnership  
Moderator: Pat O'Leary, SL RPCV 1967-68

This panel will discuss current typical village healthcare conditions, and some steps that are being taken to improve healthcare, especially among Traditional Birth Attendants. Sierra Leone has the worst Infant Mortality and Maternal Mortality in the world, and the average life expectancy is 39 years.

**11:20 -- 12:00 Economic Development – Fighting Extreme Poverty Village by Village**

John Ammon, Sierra Leone Village Project, SL Ed RPCV 1979-82  
Jeff Hall, Sierra Leone Plymouth Partnership, SL Ag RPCV 1987-89  
Leslie McKeon, SL RPCV 1966-69, Solar Electric Initiative  
Moderator: Rebecca Johnson, born Dodo village, Kenema District  
Married PCV Tom Johnson, in Minneapolis since 1983

What is happening in the realm of general economic development to successfully fight extreme poverty? What tools and resources can best help Sierra Leoneans living in extreme poverty, raise their income to become more self-sufficient? Can a grassroots, village-based approach provide measurable improvement each year? How can green technologies like solar power contribute to economic development? Are appropriate technologies and micro loans effective?