The Sierra Leone Urban Research Centre (SLURC) based in Freetown is a globally connected urban research centre. It was created through a partnership between the Bartlett Development Planning Unit (University College London) and the Institute of Geography and Development Studies (Njala University), and is initially funded by a grant from Comic Relief.

Aims
• building the research and analysis capacity of urban stakeholders in Sierra Leone;
• making urban knowledge available and accessible to those who need it, prioritising the residents of informal settlements and their organisations;
• delivering world leading research in order to influence the country’s urban policy and practice.

Research priorities
• Collection, management and dissemination of urban knowledge to communities, NGOs, government, and other relevant stakeholders;
• Host national and international urban researchers;
• Develop new partnerships and collaborations;
• Collection, management and dissemination of urban knowledge to communities, NGOs, government, and other relevant stakeholders.

Activities
• Development and provision of trainings and capacity building for key urban stakeholders (local researchers, civil servants, NGO staff and residents of informal settlements);
• Implementation of research projects;
• International exchanges to expose urban stakeholders in Sierra Leone to other urban contexts and research centres.

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Dr Alexandre Apsan Frediani (DPU, UCL), Co-Investigator
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