Slum Solutions
A relocation approach, building sustainable communities in Sierra Leone
Home Leone is relocating some of the world’s poorest and most vulnerable, from dangerous slums to new communities.

Our programmes of social justice initiatives and training maximise the effective use of the new facilities.

Sierra Leone has one of the lowest GDP’s per capita on earth and is dependent on budget support from the international community. Less than 2% of the population have paid employment and over 60% earn less than £1.50 ($2) per day. An EU report stated Freetown (the capital) alone, needs 280,000 homes. 20% of people sleep with more than 10 in a room and 94% have no flush toilets. People live in fear that they will lose their shelter and livelihoods.

Home Leone’s detailed relocation strategy stems from 15 years’ experience of building low-cost homes in 6 developing nations and securing over £3 million ($4 million) of inward investment in social infrastructure. It draws on 5 years in-depth study of informal settlements and local slum-dwellers needs; developing partnerships and contextualizing within the nation’s opportunities and constraints. The impact is and will be profound.

Home Leone’s holistic and sustainable pilot “Destiny Village” is relocating over 2,000 people to its 25-acre site, comprising 6 strategic elements:

- **Low-cost homes** – 344 homes, designed by future occupants deliver culturally appropriate living at affordable prices in a rent-to-buy scheme.

- **Businesses, employment, and skills** – participants with jobs contribute to society in a sustainable dignified manner.

- **Education** – community primary, secondary, and vocational training schools’ equip and empower the next generation. Adult education offers a second chance.

- **Healthcare** – Understanding local facilities, demand and preferences to develop a triage and pathway service. Potential for an insurance service to take pressure off households.

- **Water and Waste Management** – Drinkable water delivered to homes and neighbouring communities. Effective Waste Management and a waste-to-power incinerator.

- **Power** – Connecting to the local power grid, supplemented by solar mini-grids and generators.

This innovative community development and livelihood plan helps those with the least. The urgency to enable those living in shack communities, threatened by flood and fire, where illness pervades, and death comes early, has never been more compelling.
Think for a moment how much your own home costs to build. The direct cost (materials and labour) of each home is just £5,750 ($7,500). Built in blocks of 8, each house contains a parlour, 2 bedrooms, kitchen, toilets, and wash facilities. Culturally-appropriate design means providing both private and community facilities. Tenants pay 64% of the direct cost, or 50% of the full cost, over a 7-20 year period in a rent-to-buy scheme. Each person over 15 years old contributes 3 hours a week of community service.

Even these low-cost homes are not affordable to those exiting slums. Charitable or government subsidy is needed. Rent is set at £14 ($18) per month, being less than 20% of typical income. This offers movers a dignified way of life.

We seek to “take the slum out of the individual as well as the individual out of the slum.” Personal growth and enabling each person to make the most of the opportunity is core. Home Leone has already relocated the first families and interviewed hundreds more.
Businesses – Core to this movement is the importance of livelihood. Those moving need training and consistent ways to provide for their families and enjoy life. New businesses employing our movers include a chicken farm, vehicle garage, brick making factory and building firm. We are delivering additional enterprises including, water packaging, a piggery, bakery, plastics recycling, restaurant and shops.

We seek business partners who will locate their businesses near or in our village and employ our movers. As a social enterprise we also seek investors in our enterprises.

Education – Nelson Mandela said: “Education is the most powerful weapon you can use to change the world.”

With great partners and teachers we are developing curriculum and facilities covering kindergarten, primary, secondary, vocational, and adult education. These schools will open their doors in 2019 equipping a new generation to make an impact in their communities and nation. The schools are designed and under construction. Equipment is waiting for children hungry to learn.

Healthcare – Surrounding Destiny Village are many under-utilised health assets. Our approach is to understand local needs, capacity, skills and facilities. We are designing training alongside a triage and pathway service to develop a “healthy village.” Our “Clinic in a Can” provides a great starting place.

Procurement – Enables cost effective development. UK schools and businesses that move to new premises offer us their old buildings. Volunteers strip out doors, windows, classrooms and kitchen equipment. This high value international building recycling allows re-use of items that would otherwise have gone to landfill. It ensures our charity delivers great value for money.

Organisations with unwanted stocks make key donations. From tools to solar panels, football kit to medical supplies, building materials to expertise and financial support.
Sierra Leone

In the last 20 years this nation has emerged from civil war, Ebola, and natural disasters. In August 2017 a mudslide killed hundreds, living on a hillside highlighting the urgent need to relocate thousands of residents. We are working with the government as we develop a movement to close the slums of Freetown in less than 25 years.

Corporate and Community Teams

Home Leone enables businesses to send staff teams as part of their Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) and personal development programmes.

By hosting teams, we can help organisations deliver powerful outcomes. Clear wins are demonstrated for the individual, the company, and the new communities:

- Staff want to “give something back.” In a safe environment, they will be directly challenged as “emotional risk” results in personal development, embedding that change in the workplace. Bespoke coaching can also enhance trips.
- Staff want to work for socially aware employers. These week-long trips enhance recruitment and staff retention, providing positive publicity. Suppliers and customers are inspired by your company doing “real CSR.”

So many participants say: “I thought I was going to help – but they gave me so much more.”

We provide trips for churches, community groups and schools. Get in touch at info@homeleone.org and explore the opportunity with us today.
Upper site plan
Middle site plan

Lower site plan

Water source, bridge and dam

Allotments

Public Hall

Primary School

Basketball

Secondary School

Community Building

Vocational Training School

Football Pitch

Shops

Allotments

Guest House 1

Guest House 2

Secondary School

Primary School

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Deepest Appreciation

So many kind individuals have helped us on our journey, from regular small donations to funding blocks of 8 homes. Leading organisational supporters include:

ARUP
Boxmoor Construction
BuildAid (Norway)
Calcot Services for Children
Capital Hire
Care & Relief for the Young
City Group Inter-rent
Concern Worldwide
Gateway Church (Dallas)
Mazars Charitable Trust
Meal A Day Foundation
MEB Design
Milla Tanks
One Kind Act
Selavip Foundation (Chile)
Shankadas
Swansea University
The Healey Foundation
The Princes Foundation
Tools With A Mission
Trinity Wealth Foundation
Turley
Vitality Health
Work Aid
World Hope International

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Home Leone is advised by Turley, a leading Planning & Design Consultancy, as part of its CSR commitment

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