



SIERRA LEONE RESEARCH & EDUCATION NETWORK (SLREN)

Head Office, Njala University, Njala Campus, Private Mail Bag, Freetown, Sierra Leone
 Tel: +232 (0)79 453322 Email: tsongu@njala.edu.sl website:

SLREN 2016 Conference – PROGRAMME

DAY I - Thursday, 28 July 2016		
08:30 – 09:00	Registration	
09:00 – 10:40	Plenary Session I: Opening Session <i>Master of Ceremonies: Madam Memunatu Pratt (SLREN Committee Member/ Department of Peace & Conflict Studies, USL)</i>	
Time	Activity	Presenter
09:00 – 09:10	Call to order – Introductions and Welcome remarks from the Registrar, Njala University	Mr. Aly Turay
09:10 – 09:20	Welcome address from the Vice Chancellor & Principal, Njala University	Prof Ernest T Ndomahina
09:20 – 09:40	Speech from Minister of Education, Science and Technology (MEST) or Representative	Hon Dr. Minkilu Bah or Representative
09:40 - 10:00	Speech from Deputy Minister of Information & Communications (MIC) or Representative	Hon Cornilious Devaux or Representative
10:00 – 10:30	Keynote address from the representative of WACREN or INASP	WACREN/ INASP
10:30 – 11:00	Health break / Group Photos	
11:00 – 13:00	Session 2: NREN as a Tool for National Development <i>Chairperson: Andaleeb Jahan Alam, World Bank Country Representative</i> <i>Rapporteur: Daniel Kanu, Commissioner, Right to Access Information Commission</i>	
11:00 – 11:20	The Role and Status of National Research and Education Networks (NRENs) in Africa: The World Bank Report Case Study – The African Experience (12+8 min)	World Bank Country Representative
11:20 – 11:40	Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and its implications for Quality Education In Sierra Leone (12+8 min)	UNDP Country Representative
11:40 – 12:00	e-Readiness Assessment of Tertiary Institutions: Report on ICT readiness assessment for the rollout of fiber optic to tertiary institutions (12+8 min)	Thomas Songu/ Mohamed Jalloh,

12:00 – 12:20	Community Digital Literacy Initiative: Closing the digital divide in Sierra Leone rural schools and communities	Thomas Songu, NU Mattia Koi Demoh World Vision SL
12:20 – 13:00	Discussions	ALL
13:00 – 14:00	Lunch	
14:00 – 15:00	Session 3: SLREN Institutional Arrangements <i>Chairperson(s): Prof, Ernest T Ndomahina, Vice-Chancellor & Principal, USL</i> <i>Prof, Ekundayo Thompson, Vice-Chancellor & Principal, USL</i> Presenter – Thomas Songu & Team <i>Rapporteur: Prof. Miriam Conteh-Morgan, Librarian, IPSM, USL</i>	
14:00 – 14:40	SLREN Interim Steering Committee Report: Status report on the activities carried out by the SLREN Interim Steering Committee (30 min)	Thomas Songu Interim Chair, SLREN
14:40 – 15:00	Appointment of SLREN Governance & Management team: - the BOARD - The CEO - Staffing - Finances	ALL
15:00 – 15:30	Discussions / Adoption of Governance Structure	ALL
15:30 – 16:00	Closing Remarks	

DAY 2 - Friday, 29 June 2016		
Time	Activity	Presenter (s)
08:30 – 09:00	Registration	
10:00 – 13:00	<p>Session I Symposium: Increasing awareness of and demand for online research literature in Sierra Leone - A symposium for university and research leaders <i>Chairpersons: Professor Redwood-Sawyer, USL</i> <i>Rapporteur: Mohamed Tarawalie, Research Committee, UNIMAK</i></p> <p><i>Panelists- Academia, Researchers, Information/Library Professional, ICT Expert, Development and policy Expert</i></p>	
10:00 – 10:10	Introductions	
10:10 – 10:30	<p>Priorities for research and teaching improvements in Sierra Leone Higher Education: (brief 20 min)</p>	Vice Chancellors & Principals, Directors of Research
10:30 – 10:50	<p>Universities, Research, Development and the Policy Environment (brief 20 min)</p>	Dr Issac Plamer Dr. Joseph Sherman Kamara Dr. Samuel Brima
10:50 – 11:20	<p>Supporting research and teaching through better access to online research literature – introducing the INASP project (20 minutes presentation + 10 minutes questions/discussion)</p>	Anne Powell / INASP Representative
11:20 – 11:45	Health break / Group Photos	
11:45 – 12:15	<p>Sustainable Access to Online Scholarly Information – the Ghanaian Experience (20 minutes presentation + 10 minutes questions/discussion)</p>	Dr Helena Asamoah-Hassan, Past Chairperson, Consortium of Academic and Research Libraries, Ghana; University Librarian Emerita , Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology, Ghana; INASP Associate
12:15 – 12:30	Online Scholarly Information Initiatives in Sierra Leone	Prof Miriam Conteh-Morgan
12:30 – 13:00	Demonstration of E-Resources and Discussion	Miriam Conteh-Morgan/Thomas Songu
13:00 – 14:00	Lunch	
14:00 – 14:45	Collaboration on E-Resource Acquisition: Next Steps	ALL
14:45 – 15:00	Discussions	ALL
15:00 – 15:30	Closing	