

The Peace Process in Sierra Leone

A short presentation by:
Patricia Bashiru-Kargbo

Sierra Leone – Conflict Diagram

1787 British colonists arrive – most die
 1792 Freed slaves establish 'Freetown'
 1799 The colony gets legal status
 1808 Crown Colony established
 1896 Protectorate established
 1961 Independence
 1964 Magsai dies
 1967 General Election
 1968 Military coup – Stevens PM
 1970 One-party state
 1985 Economic crisis
 1990 Appointment of Momoh
 1990 Charles Taylor begins the war in Liberia
 1991 Emergence of Foday Sankoh and the RUF

Widespread Violence, IDPs

Labour migration
 Worsening situation
 Violation of Human Rights
 Refugees flood in through porous borders

1992 Strasser established in coup

Widespread RUF violence continues
 Amputations, mutilations, 5000 killed
 Refugees flee to Guinea, Gambia, etc.
 Killings of people accused of complicity
 Continued fighting

1993 Kamajors join the SLA to try and contain the war

1994 Large displacement of people
 1996 Bio replaces Strasser in coup

RUF violence continues
 Mob justice kills various people, including a Muslim sheikh, and people suffer reprisals

International community tries to intervene, unsuccessfully
 1996 Peace Accord (Sankoh/Kabbah)
 1997 Soldiers overthrow government – AFRC / RUF alliance
 ECOMOG intervention, driving AFRC/RUF back
 Restoration of Kabbah government and establishment of democracy
 UN Observer team
 1998 Executions of rebel leaders

War continues and the worst brutality so far occurs

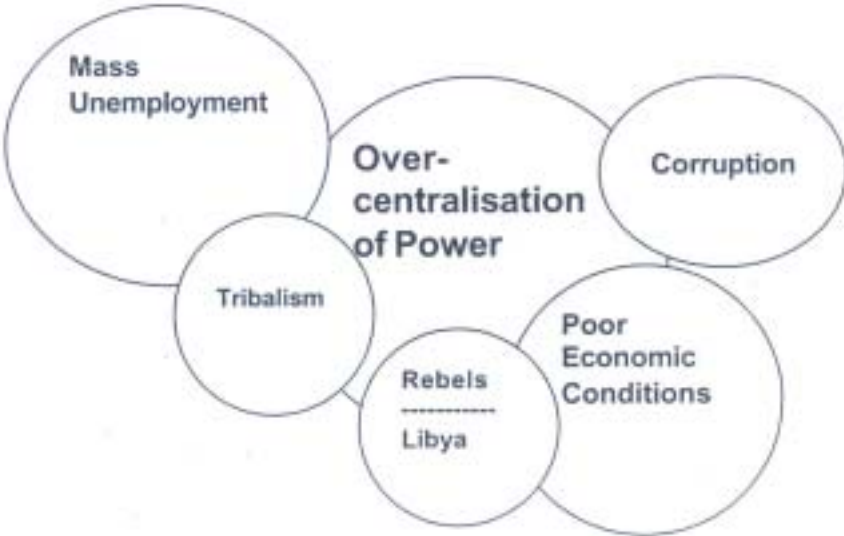
Jan 1999 Further escalation
 UNAMSIL sent in to maintain law and order

More killings and IDPs

2000 Violence continues



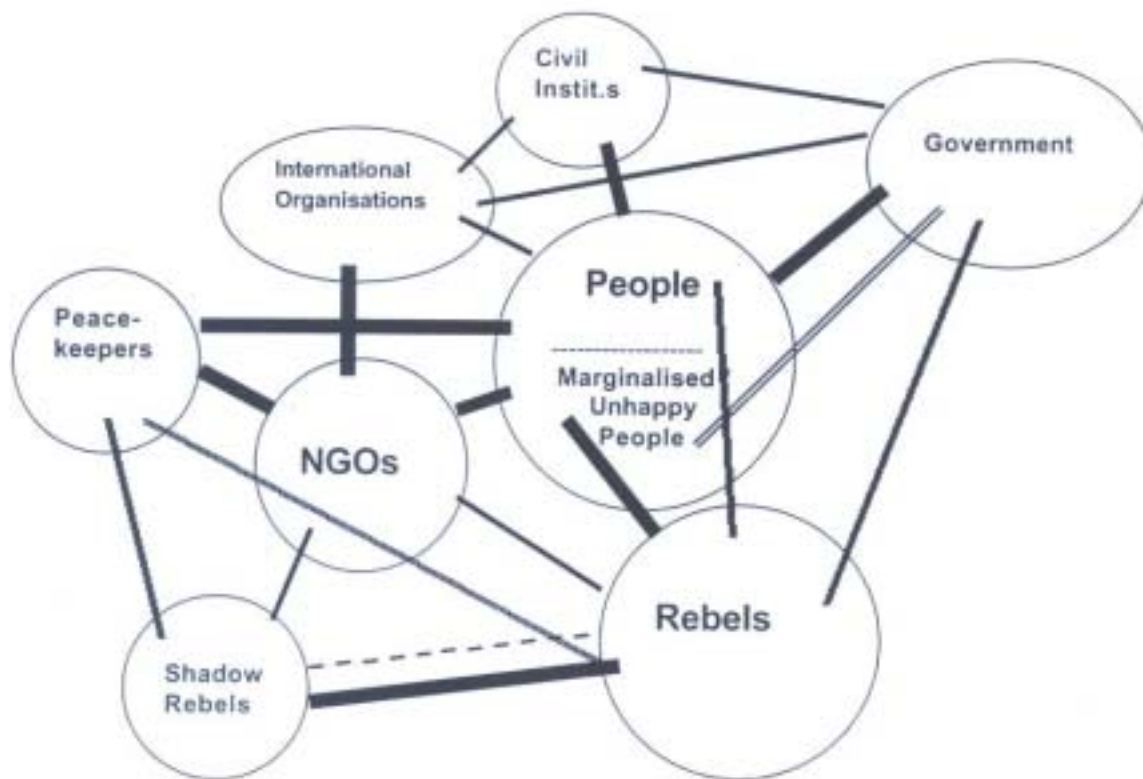
Causes of the Conflict in Sierra Leone



Causes- cont.

- The Charles Taylor Factor
- ‚Blood‘ Diamonds

Actors and Relationships in the Conflict in Sierra Leone



Key to Relationship lines

Strong relationship



Relationship



Broken relationship



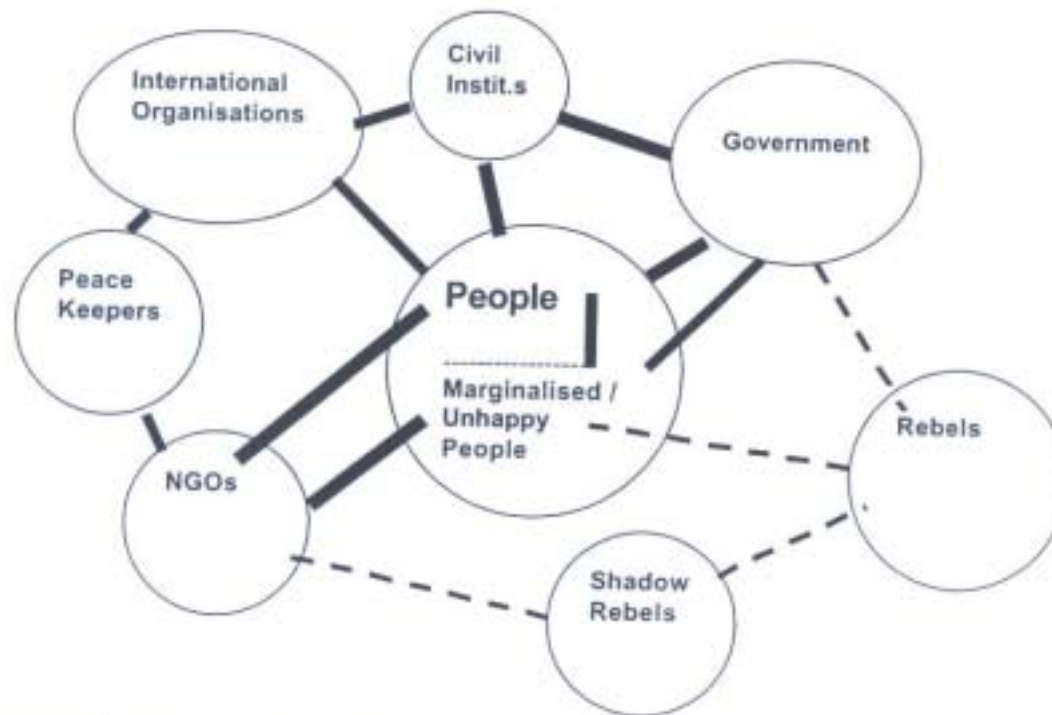
Intermittent relationship



Effects of the War

- Destruction of Lives and vital Infrastructure

Resolution – Relationships between Conflict Actors in Sierra Leone



Relationship Key

Restore relationships between

Government and Rebels
Marginalised people and Government



Strengthen relationships between

International organisations and people / government
Rebels and Peace-keeping forces



<p>Consultation with all the Actors</p>	<p>Meeting to discuss issues relating to co-ordination of efforts in peace building, come up with strategies, and establish a Task Force (to plan TOT Jan 2001).</p>
<p>Training of Trainers</p>	<p>Redefine peacebuilding in Sierra Leone. Target actors and develop participatory methods and skills. Mobilise resources, and material development. (Impact Assessment).</p>
<p>Briefing and Counseling of Returnees</p>	<p>Counseling, TV / radio, one-on-one discussion</p>
<p>Sensitisation Activities</p>	<p>Awareness-raising: radio / TV discussion, drama, campaigns, seminars, music and theatre, human rights. Workshops on reconciliation, trauma healing, combating prejudice. Formation of peace and reconciliation committees (at chiefdom level), civic education. Identify, co-ordinate and support ongoing efforts. Build awareness, and regional solidarity.</p>

The Indictment of Charles Taylor

- „...engaging in notorious or widespread, and systemic attacks against the civilian population of Sierra Leone“
- And that: „ at all times relevant to this indictment, Charles Ghankay Taylor supported and encouraged all actions of the RUF and the AFRC...alliance and acted in concert with ..Foday Saybana Sankoh...“

The Special Court for Sierra Leone (SCSL)

- „...negotiate an agreement with the Government of Sierra Leone to create an independent special court...“ Resolution 1315, paragraph 2 of the UN Security Council