

Advert for Young Women in STEM



Background

The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) has launched a flagship project to expand affordable and sustainable energy access in rural and underserved communities in Sierra Leone. To implement this, UNDP is partnering with SEND Sierra Leone and Green Solar Africa for the 'Shine Salone: Illuminating Lives, Igniting Futures' project.

This initiative aims to address the gender gap in the renewable energy sector by equipping young women who have completed STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) studies with practical skills in solar energy. The project promotes sustainable development and gender equality by fostering these women's professional growth.

Main Objective

To build the capacity of 200 young women across Sierra Leone who have completed STEM studies by providing training in green energy solutions, specifically solar energy. The initiative seeks to certify them as solar practitioners, enabling them to participate in the renewable energy sector and contribute to gender equality.

Sub-Objectives

- Provide comprehensive training in solar energy solutions, including installation, maintenance, and digital information management systems.
- Empower young women with technical skills to enhance their career prospects in the renewable energy industry.
- Certify participants as qualified solar practitioners.

Eligibility Criteria

We are looking for young women who meet the following criteria:

- Aged 18 to 35 years.
- Reside in any of the 16 districts of Sierra Leone.
- Interested in STEM and renewable energy, with a demonstrated passion for these fields.
- Hold relevant academic qualifications or have completed coursework in STEM subjects.
- Have a basic understanding of technical and mechanical concepts.
- Display strong personal motivation to pursue a career in solar and renewable energy.
- Able to work effectively in teams and communicate clearly.
- Open to learning new skills and adapting to emerging technologies.
- Any relevant internships, projects, or hands-on experience in related fields is a plus.
- Show leadership potential or experience in community or extracurricular activities related to STEM or environmental issues.
- Willing and able to commit to the duration of the training program.

Application Process

Interested and qualified applicants should submit written applications to SEND Sierra Leone offices in Kenema, Kailahun, Kono, Bonthe, Port Loko, and Freetown. Applications can also be forwarded to mariama.jalloh@sendsierraleone.com

Application Deadline: Friday, 20th September 2024.

Note: Young women with disabilities are especially encouraged to apply. Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted.