

## Photo News



Inspector General of the SLP cutting tape on one of the Family Support Unit Buildings constructed by DCI



Life Skills Session with girls

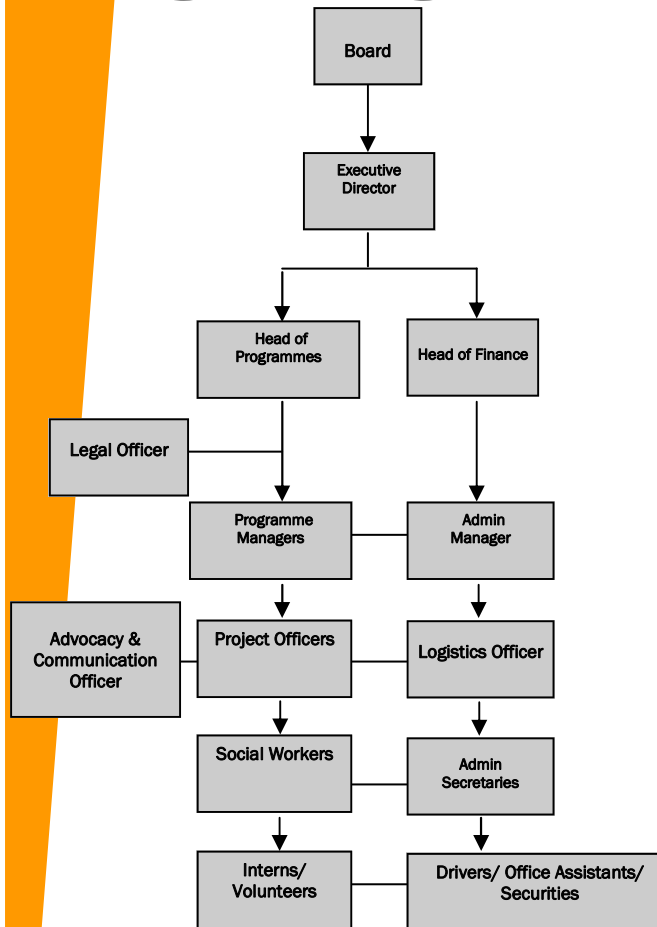


CWC Meeting in one of DCI's community



Child Rights sensitization with children

# Organogram



## Defence for Children International - Sierra Leone

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Tengbeh Town, Freetown City,  
Western Area,  
Sierra Leone, West Africa.  
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## Defence for Children International - Sierra Leone



# DCI - SL



**Motto:**  
**"Protecting & Empowering Children"**

## Background Information

Defence for Children - Sierra Leone (DCI-SL) is the Sierra Leonean chapter of Defence for Children International. DCI-SL was founded in 1998 during the peak of Sierra Leonean civil war, a time when the rights of many child citizens were gravely violated. It was initially established to monitor and document violations of children's rights and to provide legal assistance to child victims of violence and children in conflict with the law, including children who were detained and accused of being RUF rebels. Though DCI-SL is a local and independent chapter of the DCI global movement, it develops its programs based on the core principles and values of the parent body. DCI-SL envisions that children's voices are heard and that their rights are protected in both law and practice at national and community levels. DCI-SL has its head office in Freetown, and branch offices in five different districts with forty-one staff, spread over the four regions of Sierra Leone. The main thrust of DCI-SL's work is to strengthen child protection structures particularly at community level, provide legal assistance, psychosocial and socio-economic empowerment to child victims of abuse/violence, children in conflict with the law and children in very vulnerable situations.

### Vision:

DCI-SL envisions a Sierra Leone where children have a voice and are protected in both law and practice.

### Mission:

DCI-SL seeks to advance the protection of the rights and welfare of children in Sierra Leone by disseminating information on child rights, strengthening child protection systems at national and community levels, providing legal counsel and social support to children in conflict with the law and child victims of abuse and neglect in order to facilitate their access to justice, rehabilitation services and family reintegration.

### Values:

- We are committed and focused exclusively on child rights;
- We are radical in our campaigns;
- We are transparent;
- We are uncompromising on issues of child Abuse

### Guiding Principles:

- Use of best practice at all times;
- Seek for child Empowerment;
- Push Policy into action-- access to justice;
- Be child friendly and ensure the best interest of the child at all times;
- Network and collaborate with others;
- Adhere to ethical code of conduct (child protection, conflict of interest);
- Contribute to National Agenda

### Operational Districts:

DCI has its headquarters in the Freetown with district offices in Bo, Kenema, Makeni, Kono and Moyamba

### Key

### Programme Areas:

DCI – SL embarks on a series of activities in line with the new holistic approach to child protection in our operation communities. The activities are guided by the following objectives:

1. Strengthening the community child protection system;
2. Promoting civil rights of children to participation and birth registration;
3. Civil Society mobilization to influencing government policies and actions towards child justice;
4. Specialized programmes for girls and young women's protection and empowerment;
5. Construction of Family Support Buildings for the Sierra Leone Police across the country;
6. Enhancing protection and access to justice for children in conflict with the law.

### Current Support Partners:

DCI - SL is currently funded by the following donors: UNICEF, DCI/ECPAT, Netherlands, Cordaid PLAN Sierra Leone, Fund for Global Human Rights, ICCO / Kerkinactie Global Ministries, Fight for Peace

### Legal Status:

DCI is registered with the Office of the Administrator & Registrar General as a Company & Limited by Guarantee & with the Ministry of Social Welfare, Gender & Children's Affairs as Child Rights Advocacy Organization DCI is also registered with other government line ministries in Sierra Leone.