

Press Release

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MAPO vs Koidu Limited

Appeal Court Extends Injunction on Koidu Limited

The Appeal Court of Sierra Leone has on Monday 21st July 2025 extended an earlier interim injunction slammed on Koidu Limited following an injunction application brought before the court by the Kono-based Marginalized Affected Property Owners (MAPO). The injunction application, which was first upheld by the court on Thursday 17th July 2025, has been extended to Monday 28th July 2025. MAPO is represented by the legal firm of C&J Partners.

The court's order prohibits Koidu Limited, a major mining company operating in Koidu City, Tankoro Chiefdom in Kono District, from selling, disposing of or in any way alienating any of its properties. This legal action was initiated following an application made by MAPO's legal representatives, C&J Partners, who are working collaboratively with the Network Movement for Justice and Development (NMJD) with support from the Ghana-based Advocates for Community Alternatives (ACA). The injunction is a temporary measure, pending further legal proceedings. The court scheduled a hearing for Monday 21st July 2025 in which both the complainants and the defendants presented oral and/or electronic arguments with each party allotted 20 minutes to state their case.

This ongoing legal action against Koidu Limited by alleged victims of corporate excesses is expected to have broad implications for corporate accountability and community rights in Sierra Leone's mining communities.

Brief background

Koidu Limited is a diamond mining company that operates in Sierra Leone and is privately owned by BSG Resources Limited (BSGR) through its subsidiary, Octéa Limited. The company is accused of degrading the living conditions of people living near its mining operations and failing to properly relocate them or compensate them for their losses.



Residents who have not been relocated find it increasingly difficult to farm because waste rock and rubble from Koidu Ltd.'s operations have covered much of their farmland. "Koidu Limited has destroyed our lives," said Mr. Prince Boima, Chairman of the Marginalized Affected Property Owners Association. "We used to farm and live in peace, but now our lands and water sources are poisoned and covered in rubble. Our homes are shaken by explosives every day."

Residents also reported that their health has suffered. Dust from the mining operations often covers the community and causes headaches, difficulty breathing, and a burning sensation in their eyes. The operations have also contaminated the water, and many residents have developed skin rashes and digestive problems they did not previously experience. High stress from living with frequent blasting further causes headaches, high blood pressure, heart palpitations, and respiratory problems in the community.

Despite promising to properly relocate affected community members in advance of expanding its mining operations, Koidu Ltd. has left the people to suffer. Many community members have neither been relocated, nor compensated for the damage to their properties, health, and livelihoods. Others have been relocated to a new area, but the conditions of relocation have been incommensurate with what they lost.

In all of this, Koidu Limited had closed the mine, laid off all its workers, and was stripping valuable machinery from the site. The mine site is currently stripped of everything of value (except for the power plant) and it is abandoned except for a token detachment of police officers who are keeping guard. There are also rumors that the company had been sold to an unknown buyer.

This prompted the plaintiffs to freeze the company's assets to ensure that there would be enough left to satisfy an eventual judgment in favour of MAPO.

The community is supported in its fight for justice by Advocates for Community Alternatives (ACA), a Ghana-based human rights organization, and Network Movement for Justice and Development (NMJD), a Sierra Leonean civil society organization that organizes communities for a more just society in the face of natural resource extraction.

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Advocates for Community Alternatives (ACA) – ACA helps West African communities that are threatened by the destructive impacts of extractives-led development to take control of their own futures. ACA works directly with communities to design their own sustainable development plans and advocate to achieve those plans, and it builds and supports networks of lawyers and other professionals that will serve communities in need. ACA is providing strategic legal support to NMJD



as part of their participation in the Public Interest Lawyering Network for West Africa (PILIWA), which ACA coordinates.

The Network Movement for Justice and Development (NMJD) is a Sierra Leonean civil society organization that engages in advocacy and strengthens the capacity of civil society organizations to effectively engage women, men, children, communities, government and other actors for the transformation of society. NMJD's vision is of a just and self-reliant society (Sierra Leone) where women, men, children and communities are conscientized and live in dignity without fear and discrimination, especially on grounds of sex, race, faith, socio-economic and political status.

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