

CURRICULUM VITAE

Name : **FORSTER, Christopher John**
Date of Birth : 20th December 1953
Place of Birth : Banjul, The Gambia
Nationality : Sierra Leonean
Marital Status : Married, Two Children
Wife : Jebbeh Elizabeth FORSTER
Children : Beran FORSTER & Bani FORSTER
Daughter-in-Law : Fatmata Forster
Grandchildren : Sukai and Chidi
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Languages: English – fluent, French – fair, German – basic.

Key Qualification:

1976 - 79 Fourah Bay College, University of Sierra Leone - B. Eng (Hons) Civil Engineering,

1980 Eidgenossische Technische Hochschule, Institut für Bauplanung und Baubetrieb, Zurich, Switzerland - Benefit/Cost Analysis and programming of Public Infrastructure investment

2000 Institut de Français, Villefranche-Sur-Mer, France
French language course

Professional Membership:

MAPM: Member, Association For Project Management (1995)

Sierra Leone Institution of Engineers: Fellow, and Vice President.

Current Membership of Organisations:

Sierra Leone Chamber of Commerce, Industry and Agriculture: President

Rotary: Charter member of RC Kissy Mess Mess in April 1993, Secretary 1993/94, President Elect 1995/96, club closed due to civil war in May 1996.

Left Sierra Leone and worked in Liberia 1996/97 and fellowshiped mostly at RC Monrovia.

Moved again in 1999 due to civil war and worked in Conakry 1999/2000; fellowshiped with RC Conakry.

Returned to Sierra Leone in April 2000 and joined RC Freetown.

Past President (2003/4), Past Assistant Governor (Sierra Leone & Liberia, 2005/7), District 9100 Rotary World Peace Fellowship Chair 2008/10, Cadre Technical Adviser in Water & Sanitation since 2014, Past Club Trainer & currently one of the designated Trainers for District Training Programmes, District Governor Elect for 2021/22, RI Water and Sanitation of TRF Cadre of Technical Advisers 1st July 2021 to 30th June 2024.

Ecobank Sierra Leone Limited: Chair, Board of Directors

Sierra Leone Ports Authority: Director

Business Coalition Against AIDS Sierra Leone: Vice Chair and member of Board of Directors

National Fertilizer Regulatory Authority – Board Member

West African Methodist Church Connection: Local Preacher (1995 to date), Trustee of Jordan Church, Murray Town.

Past Membership of Organisations:

Scripture Union of Sierra Leone: National Chairman - 2001 to 2006, and 2012 to 2018

National Power Authority: Member Board of Directors (November 2013 to 2015)

Electricity Generation & Transmission Company (EGTC): Member Board of Directors (2015 to 2018)

Country Coordinating Mechanism (of the Global Fund, Sierra Leone): 2002 to 2012, Chair (to April 2012) and member of the Management Committee

MAIN COMPETENCIES & EXPERIENCE

- Twelve (12) years engineering and procurement experience in a major international oil company
- Thirteen (13) years procurement, marketing and service experience in a UK based international procurement company
- Two plus (2+) years project management experience, managing a US\$4m investment and construction programme for a major international oil company in Sierra Leone, 1989 - 1992
- Focal point for safety for seven (7) years in a major international oil company
- Estate and facilities management experience in a major international oil company and privately
- Six (6) years as active member, Vice Chair and Chair of the Global Fund's CCM (Country Coordinating Mechanism) in Sierra Leone. Brought Private sector managerial inputs to CCM activities.
- Co-initiator, Board Member and Vice Chair of Business Coalition Against AIDS in Sierra Leone
- Ability to manage a business; financial, administrative and personnel
- Ability to work unsupervised and under pressure
- Working experience in Switzerland, Liberia, Guinea – Conakry and Sierra Leone, with working visits made to The Gambia and Mali.

Key Achievements:

Country Coordinating Mechanism of the Global Fund in Sierra Leone (2006 to April 2012)

Introduction of private sector management practices into the CCM procedures. Participation in revising and concluding Bylaws, Standard Operating Procedures; improvement in governance and oversight of programmes. Strengthened role of private sector in CCM.

Initiated partnerships between private sector companies and national malaria control programme. Vice Chair 2009 to April 2011, Chair from May 2011 to April 2012.

Business Coalition Against AIDS in Sierra Leone. (2008 to date)

One of two co-initiators to set up the coalition. Successful set up of the coalition and subsequent membership of the Global Business Coalition. Core of organised private sector companies in Sierra Leone now committed to pursuing a concerted effort to set up and execute a uniform policy in respect to HIV/AIDS in the workplace. Current Vice Chair.

Nesstra Services (UK) Limited (1995-2009): Representing ABB, Alfa Laval and METSO Minerals, Shell Chemicals.

Marked increase in sales volumes to mining companies, coupled with improved customer relations.

Revived the business after the interregnum, by renewing marketing contacts with manufacturing and mining concerns. Expanded sales to The Gambia and supported marketing in the Liberia operation resulting in returning to and maintaining profitability of Liberia operation. Similar result for Guinea office in 1999/2000.

Straightened out the company accounts and instituted procedures for reporting to head office on a monthly basis.

Introduction of new marketing strategy that led to a large increase in chemicals sales volumes.

Instituted credit and cash collection procedures resulting in improved cash flow of company.

Marked increase in lubricants sales volumes to industrial customers leading to dominance in that market segment.

Profitable running of the service arm of the company.

Shell Sierra Leone Limited (1982-1994): Joined as Engineer, with ultimate position of Project Manager, responsible for US\$4.0 Million investment into upgrading the newly acquired installation.

Supervised project engineers and draughtsman.

Procured equipment and materials.

Prepared monthly project reports giving financial statements comparing budgeted and actual expenditure on each aspect of the project.

As focal point for safety, led drive to improve bulk road vehicle safety performance and in house safety procedures and practices.

Key result: Successful completion of the project within budget, and receipt of safety award from Shell International to Shell Sierra Leone.

February 1992: ACCEPTED BY SHELL INTERNATIONAL AS COURSE DIRECTOR FOR REGIONAL PROJECT MANAGEMENT WORKSHOP.

Edward Davies & Associates (1979 – 1982): Design Engineer. Carried out analysis of bids received for a 75 mile road project, structural design of buildings and water treatment facilities, and reticulation systems.

Field surveys for roads in rural areas.

Seconded to Motor Columbus Consulting Engineers in Baden, Switzerland for the Bumbuna Hydroelectric Project. Designed surge towers and tailrace canals and proof read the final feasibility report. Carried out design work for other dam projects, namely Dokan and Berbendi Khan dams in Iraq.

Rotary:

Rotaract Club of Fourah Bay College - Charter President in 1979/80.

Rotary Club of Kissy Mess Mess - Charter member in 1993.

Classification: Fuel Oil Distribution

Club Secretary 1993/4, and various committees from 1994 to 1996

President Elect 1996/7.

Civil war in country led to closure of club in June 1997. Worked in Liberia from June 1997 to August 1998 and fellowshiped with RC Monrovia.

Rotary Club of Freetown - Transferred membership to RC Freetown after closure of RC Kissy Mess Mess.

Left Sierra Leone a second time in January 1999 due to civil war and worked in Conakry till April 2000. Fellowshiped with RC Conakry. Returned to Freetown in April 2000.

Rotary Club of Freetown - Served on various committees, membership, club service, foundation.

President 2003/4.

Assistant Governor 2005/7 – Clubs in Sierra Leone and Liberia.

District 9100 Rotary World Peace Fellowship Chair 2008/10.

Member & Ambassador of WASRAG (Water & Sanitation Rotary Action Group)

Chair District Expansion Committee 2018/19

Cadre of Technical Advisors – Member in the Water & Sanitation area of focus from 2014 to date.

Water & Sanitation of the TRF Cadre of Technical Advisers – 01Jul21 to 30Jun24

RI Conventions (10): Chicago 2005, Los Angeles 2008, Birmingham 2009, Lisbon 2013, Sydney 2014, Atlanta 2017, Toronto 2018, Hamburg 2019, Hawaii 2020 (Virtual), Ouagadougou 2021 (Virtual).

D9100 Conferences (9): 1997-Mali, 2002-Senegal, 2003-Ghana, 2004-Mali, 2005-Benin, 2007-Cape Verde, 2008-Ghana, 2009-Togo, 2011-Accra.

D9101 Conferences (5): 2016 - Côte d'Ivoire, 2018 – Mali, 2019 – Banjul, 2020 – Ouagadougou (Virtual), 2021 – Abidjan (Virtual)

Zone Institute (5): 2007 - Kenya, 2010 - Uganda, 2019 – Egypt, 2020 – Uganda, 2021 - Cameroon

Cadre Assignments (7): July 2014 - Technical desk review of GG1415095 of Water & Sanitation project in Honduras.

May 2015 - Pre implementation site visit to GG1525222 for Water & Sanitation project in Uganda

October 2015 – Site visit for Grant Model Evaluation, GG1413792, Orphanage for HIV orphans in Ghana

October 2015 – Site visit for Grant Model Evaluation, GG1415617, Sanitation, Toxic Water Removal and Environmental Health Awareness in Ghana

March 2017 – Site visit for Interim Model Evaluation, GG1527389, Boreholes, Microflush Toilets, Vocational Training and Electrical Engineering Computer Laboratory in Ghana.

September 2018 – Site visit for Interim Model Evaluation, GG1749534, Boreholes, Microflush Toilets, Microfinance Loans in Ghana

September 2018 – Interim Model Evaluation, GG1756909, Boreholes, Microflush Toilets, Microfinance Loans in Ghana

The Rotary Foundation Contributions: Nov 2016 – Major Donor Stage 1
Oct 2016 - PHF+8
Sep 2015 – PHF+6
Jun 2014 – PHF+5
Jun 2013 – PHF+4
Nov 2010 – PHF+3
Nov 2010 – PHF+2
Feb 2010 – PHF+1
May 2003 – PHF

Paul Harris Society Member – September 2016

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