

WORLD OZONE DAY 2025 - SIERRA LEONE

2025 World Ozone Day Grand Commemoration – Koidu City, Eastern Region

The 2025 World Ozone Day (WOD) Grand Commemoration was held in Koidu City, Eastern Region, with a series of events spanning from **13th to 16th September 2025**.

The programme commenced on **Saturday, 13th September**, with a street awareness-raising melodrama performed by Refrigeration and Air-Conditioning (RAC) technicians.

On **Sunday, 14th September**, an **Eco-Ozone Awareness Jogging (cross-country)** event began at 6:45 a.m., bringing together participants from diverse backgrounds. This was followed by the traditional **WOD Football Match**, which featured a combined team of EPA-SL/NOO staff and RAC technicians competing against the **Kono District Gold & Diamond Dealers Association (end users)**. The exciting game ended in a thrilling 5–5 draw.

On **Monday, 15th September**, the celebration continued with the inauguration of a **new Center of Excellence (CoE) in Kono**, built by GIZ with equipment supplied by the Multilateral Fund (MLF) through UNIDO. The center was officially dedicated to three Ozone Ambassadors who made significant contributions to the implementation of the Montreal Protocol in Sierra Leone (see commemorative plaque). The launch attracted hundreds of people and was widely covered by the media.

The **Grand Celebration** took place on **Tuesday, 16th September**, beginning with a colorful **march-past** through the bustling streets of Koidu City, leading to the Great Hall. The event featured:

- Speeches from key stakeholders
- Poetry recitations by school pupils and the NOO
- A special musical performance highlighting the ODS/HFC permit process, RAC certification, and regulatory requirements
- The official handover of refrigerant recovery support equipment donated by COPA to RAC associations

Over **500 participants** from all sectors of society received awareness materials, including T-shirts, wall clocks, bags, diplomatic pens, key holders, caps, diaries, and more. Nationwide radio and TV programs further amplified the message of ozone protection and climate-friendly practices.

PHOTOS

