

<u>Manowa- Sandaru Road Project</u> <u>Update – December 10, 2009</u>

After the high profile fund raising events in New York and Washington came the hard work of finding the donors to support this Taia Peace Foundation initiative—the road –the road. Along with individual donors, Tiffany & Co answered the call.

With funds in hand we began the negotiations with the Sierra Leone Road Authority (SLRA) to frame a Memorandum of Agreement for the construction. We needed assurance that the repair could be completed before the start of the rainy season. We insisted on a detailed work schedule by phases with payments being made in increments based on performance to schedule. We also insisted that local labor be used whenever low skilled labor was to be employed. After several back and forth changes and amendments with our Sierra Leone legal counsel's guidance, we had an agreement. On December 4, 2009, TPF Chairman Jeffrey Wright and Director General Munda Rogers of the SLRA signed the agreement.



Among the witnesses were the Kailahun District Chairman Tom Sahr Nyuma (who by Sierra Leone law has primary responsibility to maintain feeder roads in his district) and



TPF's TT De Abreu. This was a time to celebrate a long dreamed of "Yes, we can!"