



**Local Project Appraisal Committee (LPAC) Meeting on Pro-Poor Livelihood & Employment
Creation in Liberia
VIRTUAL MEETING (via Zoom)**

Date: Wednesday, January 20, 2021
Time: 02:00PM-04:30PM

Chair: Hon. Augustus J. Flomo, Deputy Minister for Economic Management, Ministry of Finance and Development Planning (MFDP).

Moderator: Mr. E. Abraham T. Tumbey; Programme Manager -Inclusive Growth & Sustainable Development, UNDP-Liberia.

Participating Entities:

- **United Nations Development programme-UNDP**
- **Government of Liberia:** Ministry of Finance and Development Planning (MFDP), Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Ministry of Commerce, Ministry of Gender, Children & Social Protection, Ministry of Youth & Sports,
- **Private Sector:** Liberia Chamber of Commerce, Liberia Business Association, Liberia Private Sector Climate Action Alliance
- **Development Partners:** World Bank, Canada, AFDB, USAID, EU, Swedish Embassy/SIDA, Conservation International, UN Refugee Agency (UNHCR).
- **Local NGOs:** NGO Coalition of Liberia, Society for the Conservation of Nature of Liberia, Volunteers for Sustainable Development in Africa (VOSIEDA)

1.0 Opening Remarks

1.1 The meeting was opened by the Chair, Hon. Augustus J. Flomo, Deputy Minister for Economic Management, MFDP, who welcomed all invited guests/participants to the Pro-Poor Livelihood & Employment Creation Local Project Appraisal Meeting (LPAC). Hon. Flomo underscored that the current GoL policy calls for alignment of all programs and projects to the country's national development plan (PAPD). He highlighted the need for broad-based consultations, teamwork, and strategic planning in addressing issues related to poverty and job creation in Liberia. The Chair expressed optimism that through collaborative partnership and cooperation amongst partners, the objectives of the Pro-Poor Livelihood and Employment Creation project will be met. Deputy Minister Flomo applauded UNDP and other development partners for the initiative and assured them of high-level government support through the Ministry of Finance & Development Planning.

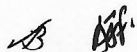
1.2 Ms. Violet Baffour, Deputy Resident Representative/Programmes-UNDP thanked all participants for their participation. She noted that while there is an increase in unemployment and under-employment, there are opportunities for entrepreneurship. Ms. Baffour invited stakeholders to review the new project based on the criteria of a "stress test" for the programme, including— its Relevance; Feasibility; evidence of Commitment of the various partners; Environmental and Social Impacts; Accountability; Cost Effectiveness—is this Value for Money?; Risk Management; Monitoring and Evaluation; and Sustainability. Ms. Baffour noted that UNDP, through its Livelihood Programme, will contribute to poverty and inequality reduction for the poor and vulnerable households/population to support Liberia's development with focus on youth, people living with disabilities and women and in partnership with the GOL, Private sector actors and the UN Family. She concluded by expressing her gratitude to all for

their active contributions to ensure working together for the people of Liberia and assured all participants and partners that UNDP remains committed to supporting Liberia towards sustainable development and peace.

- 1.3 Prof. Wilson Tarpeh-Executive Director of EPA expressed optimism and appreciation to UNDP and partners for the relevance and significance of the interventions proposed and called for the earliest implementation of the project in order to bring relief to youth, women and other vulnerable populations in the country. Prof Tarpeh also called upon the government through its Ministry of Commerce to play a major role in the planning, execution, and operationalization of the project to help improve the lives of the vulnerable populations in Liberia. He further emphasized the need to adapt the National Implementation model and assured the partners that EPA is prepared to be a part of the initiative for its full implementation.
- 1.4 USAID representative, Jeffrey Zahka expressed appreciation for the invitation and pointed out that USAID is very interested in learning more about the small and micro business loans that were discussed in the media and assured the group of their organizations' commitment to support Liberia's development.
- 1.5 Mr. Jyrki Tornii- (EU representative) emphasized the need for development of small businesses and pointed out that 40% of exports are produced by SMEs in the EU and reiterated the need for efficient and sound transparent management of the SMEs for socio-economic transformation of Liberia.
- 1.6 Mr. Peter Mulbah (Country Director- Conservation International) was appreciative to UNDP and GoL for the new project and confirmed his organization's interest in learning more about the project, noting that Conservation International also supports livelihood activities around protected areas by developing Conservation Agreements with communities and expressed hope of collaborating with UNDP in exploring new strategies and approaches to empower the youth and other vulnerable populations in Liberia.
- 1.7 UNHCR Representative, Derrick Akintade noted the importance of the project and the opportunities to support refugee populations while expressing hope for more support by all partners towards the livelihood of vulnerable populations including refugees in host communities of Liberia.
- 1.8 Hon. Debra Nebo, Deputy Minister for small businesses administration, Ministry of Commerce noted the relevance, feasibility and significance of the project and re-iterated the Ministry's appreciation to partners, especially UNDP for their support to empower Liberians and assured partners of the Ministry's cooperation for the successful implementation of the project.

2.0 Presentation of the Pro-Poor Livelihood & Employment Creation Project Document

- 2.1 Mr. E. Abraham T. Tumbey (UNDP) noted that prior to this meeting, there were several consultations and engagement around the project concept, results and strategies. Presenting an overview of the situation of Liberia, he noted that Liberia is ranked 176th out of 189 countries on the UNDP 2019 Human Development Index (HDI) and faces stack challenges of poverty and inequality affecting 50.9% of the population with 71.8% in rural areas and 31.5% in urban settings. He further noted that limited access to sustainable and viable income-generating opportunities is among key factors contributing to poverty/inequality in Liberia. As such, there is need to support measures that reduce socio-economic impact on the poor in order to contribute to socio-economic recovery. " UNDP, through the Project will contribute by supporting initiatives that engage poor/vulnerable population in sustainable income generation activities in counties. Mr. Tumbey added that the Project will engage poor and vulnerable populations in socioeconomic schemes to help improve their lives, particularly targeting women, youth and persons with disabilities. Mr. Tumbey emphasized that the strategy will be to build long-term resilience with comprehensive, long-term, and transformational view working with communities consistently using a variety of approaches over an extended 5 years period by targeting areas where the poor live. He highlighted the expected results and partnerships with GOL, UNHCR, FAO, UNCDF, NGOs/CBOs, private Sector, and communities. Tumbey noted that the project is designed to be implemented through a national Implementation Modality with government as the Implementing Partner, while UNDP provides support on programmatic and operational support using its regulation and rules, where applicable.



05-Feb-2021

4.0 Resolutions:

Resolution	Responsible Party	Date
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The document is partially approved pending submission of meeting minutes and incorporation of comments into the programme document. 	Meeting Participants	Pending
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The government and partners should work very strongly to ensure that the implementation is conducted properly to ensure that the project benefits the target population. 	UNDP/ Government.	Pending.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> While the project is relevant and feasible, there is a need for collaboration and coordination to mobilize resources to support the achievement of the project results. 	UNDP/Partners/Government	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The project modality proposed, National Implementation Modality (NIM) is relevant and needs to be executed to allow for GoL ownership. 	Government/UNDP	

Secretary: Moses massah Date: 05-Feb-2021
 Mr. Moses Massah
 Programme Specialist-UNDP

Co-Chair: Violet Baffour Date: 05-Feb-2021
 Ms. Violet Baffour
 Deputy Resident Representative/Programme-UNDP

Chairperson: [Signature] Date: Feb. 9, 2021
 Hon. Augustus J. Flomo
 Deputy Minister for Economic Management, Ministry of Finance for Development Planning (MFDP).

Annex I: Agenda

PRO-POOR LIVELIHOOD AND EMPLOYMENT CREATION IN LIBERIA

Date: Wednesday, January 20, 2021

Time: 02:00PM

Agenda

No.	Time frame	Activity	Responsible Party
01	1:30PM-02:00PM	Online Registration /connection	All.
02	2:00PM-2:10PM	Welcome remarks by Chair	Hon. Augustus J. Flomo, Deputy Minister for Economic Management, MFDP
03	02:10-02:20	Introduction of participants and meeting objectives	
03	02:20 PM-03:00PM	Special Remarks (2 minutes each)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Liberia Chamber of Commerce• Liberia Business Association• World Bank• Canada• AfDB• USAID• EU• Swedish Embassy/SIDA• Conservation International• UN Refugee Agency (UNHCR)• Prof Wilson Tarpeh-Executive Director, EPA• Violet Baffour, Deputy Resident Representative/Programme, UNDP• Hon. Mawine G. Diggs-Minister of Commerce & Industry
04	03:00PM-03:45PM	Presentation of project: <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Background▪ Overview/Objective▪ Implementation Plan▪ Expected Results▪ Budget	E. Abraham T. Tumbey Programme Manager -Inclusive Growth & Sustainable Development , UNDP
05	03:45PM-04:30PM	Discussion & Resolutions	Facilitated by Moses Massah-Team Leader a.i, Inclusive Growth & Sustainable Development, UNDP

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Annex II: Attendance Record

NO.	NAME	SEX	TITLE	INSTITUTION	PHONE #	E-MAIL
1.	HON. AUGUSTUS J. FLOMO,	M	DEPUTY MINISTER FOR ECONOMIC MANAGEMENT-MFDP	MFDP		AJFLOMO@MFDP.GOV.LR
2.	VIOLET BAFFOUR	F	DEPUTY RESIDENT REPRESENTATIVE	UNDP	0770003776	VIOLET.BAFFOUR@UNDP.ORG
3.	PROF WILSON TARPEH	M	EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR	EPA		WTARPEH@EPA.GOV.LR
4.	HON. MAWINE G. DIGGS		MINISTER OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY	MOC		MGDIGGS@MOCI.GOV.LR
5.	HON DEBRA NEBO	F	DEPUTY MINISTER, SMALL BUSINESS ADMIN.		0775 894 927	DNEBO@MOCI.GOV.LR
6.	MOSES MASSAH	M	TEAM LEADER, INCL. GROWTH, SD	UNDP		MOSES.MASSAH@UNDP.ORG
7.	DERRICK AKINTADE	M	UNHCR	UNHCR		AKINTADD@UNHCR.ORG
8.	JEFFERY ZAKA	M	ECONOMIC GROUP OFFICER	USAID		
10.	ABRAHAM TUMBAY JR	M	PROGRAMME MANAGER	UNDP	0770004241	ABRAHAM.TUMBAY@UNDP.ORG
11.	RANDA N. MOORE	F	CONSULTANT	UNDP	0886618263	RANMOORE2015@GMAIL.COM
12.	ALICE E. WILLIAMS	F	DIRECTOR AID MGT/COORDINATION UNIT	MFDP		
13.	HON. BENEDICT KOLUBAH	M	ASS. MINISTER FOR DEV'T PLANNING	MFDP		BKOLUBAH@MFDP.GOV.LR
14.	FRANKLIN JACKSON	M	MANAGING DIRECTOR	LOCAL FARM		FRANKLINJACKSON466@GMAIL.COM
14.	ROBERT DORLIAE	M	PROGRAMME ANALYST	UNDP		ROBERT.DORLIAE@UNDP.ORG
15.	MORRIS DOGBAH	M	GENERAL MANAGER	GREEN GOLD LIBERIA		GREENGOLDLIBERIA@GMAIL.COM
16.	HASSAN KANNEH	M	DEP. MINISTER	MOGCSP		
17.	WELLINGTON BARCHUE	M	UN FOCAL PERSON	MFDP		JWBARCHUE@MFDP.GOV.LR
18.	JONATHAN ROBERTS	M	TECHNICAL ADVISOR	FAO		JONATHAN.ROBERTS@FAO.ORG
19.	JULIUS YEAWEH	M	SMEs/AGRIBUSINESS CONSULTANT	MOCI		
20.	JYRKI TORNI	F	HEAD OF ECONOMIC/POLITICAL SECTION	EU		JYRKI.TORNI@EEAS.EUROPA.EU
21.	KATE O'DONELL		HEAD OF DEVELOPMENT	EMBASSY OF IRELAND		
22.	MEHNAZ AJMAL		POLICY OFFICER	FAO		
23.	MICHAEL GARBO	M	EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR	SNCL		SCNLLIBERIA@YAHOO.COM
24.	OCTAVIBUS QUABO		ASSIST. REP. FOR PROGRAMME	FAO		OCTAVIUS.QUARBO@FAO.ORG
25.	PETER MULBAH	M	COUNTRY DIRECTOR	CONSERVATION INTERNATIONAL		PMULBAH@CONSERVATION.ORG
26.	SALIMATU LAMIN	F	ENERGY & ENVIRONMENT COORD	EPA		NAMUTU1228@GMAIL.COM
27.	RICHARD HOFF	M	NATIONAL FACILITATOR	NGO COALITION OF LIBERIA		RICHARD.HOFF83@GMAIL.COM
28.	D.ZEOGAR WILSON	M	MINISTER OF YOUTH/SPORTS	MOYS		ZEOGARW@MOYS.GOV.LR
29.	ROBERT FAGANS	M	DEP. MINISTER - PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT	MOA		RFAGANS@MOA.GOV.LR
30.	PHILOMINA F. DAVID	F	ASSISTANT DIRECTOR, ACCESS TO MARKETS	MOCI		PHILKEY12@GMAIL.COM

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