

# UNDP Results

## Liberia



## Approach

UNDP's work in Liberia over the next years will focus primarily on assisting the Government to achieve priorities outlined in the country's Poverty Reduction Strategy, focusing on capacity development for rule of law, reform, natural resource management and development.

With our experience on the ground in Liberia, our ability to draw on development best practices from the 166 countries where we operate, and our noted expertise in effectively handling donor funds in post-crisis countries, UNDP is well placed to be a catalyst for development in Liberia and to help Liberians continue to reap the dividends of peace.

## RESULTS

### Reconciliation and consolidating peace

To support the development of a peaceful society that respects the rights of citizens, in 2009, UNDP:

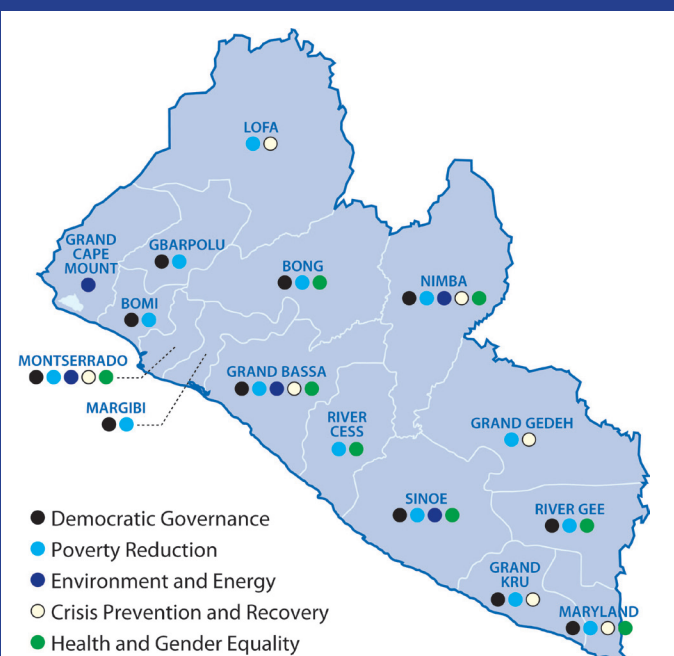
- Completed the final phase of the work of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission, by organizing four regional consultations and a national conference as critical fora for delegates from around the country and the diaspora to make recommendations on peace and reconciliation efforts moving forward, and to comment on the draft Commission Report. The Commission handed over its report to the legislature and the recommendations are now under discussion by civil society, traditional leaders and legislators.
- Concluded a five-year disarmament, demobilization, rehabilitation and reintegration exercise, in conjunction with the Government of Liberia and UN peacekeepers. Some US\$76 million was spent providing psychological counselling and vocational training to more than 60,000 former combatants across the country. Almost 8,000 of those trained in carpentry, masonry, auto repair, tailoring and computers have started their own businesses. Several three-year university scholarships in social sciences and business administration were also awarded.

### Making institutions work

Our efforts centre on building institutions to serve the Liberian people and decentralizing government. Specific results in 2009 include the following:

- UNDP helped identify and hire, both locally and from the diaspora, some 160 highly qualified Liberians to many key civil service posts, such as in the ministries of finance and justice. They helped the institutions function and provided mentoring, coaching and intensive training and workshops.
- Liberia's new Anti-Corruption Commission is up and running, in part due to essential logistical and operational support from UNDP and the United Nations Democracy Fund. Our support

## LIBERIA



The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.

## UNDP Activities in Liberia: 2009

Theme	Funders	Total Amount US\$ Millions*
<b>Democratic Governance</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Communications for development</li> <li>• Community security and social cohesion</li> <li>• Rule of law</li> <li>• County support</li> <li>• Disarmament and reintegration</li> <li>• Local development</li> <li>• Public administration reform</li> </ul>	Belgium, Denmark, European Commission, Germany, Ireland, Japan, The Netherlands, Norway, Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency, UN Peacebuilding Fund, UN Capital Development Fund, UNDP, UNICEF, UN, UN Democracy Fund, UN High Commissioner for Refugees	22.0
<b>Poverty Reduction and Economic Development</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Aid coordination</li> <li>• Capacity development</li> <li>• Community development</li> <li>• Economic management</li> <li>• Environmental sustainability</li> <li>• Microfinance</li> <li>• UN volunteers</li> <li>• Youth empowerment</li> </ul>	Belgium, Greece, Liberia, Sweden, Danish International Development Agency, Deutsche Gesellschaft für Technische Zusammenarbeit (GTZ), European Commission, Humanity United/UN Office for Partnerships, Open Society Initiative for West Africa, Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency, United Kingdom Department for International Development (DFID), United States Agency for International Development, UNDP, UN Peacebuilding Fund, Global Environment Facility	16.6
<b>Health and Gender Equality</b>	The Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria	20.0
<b>Support for Gender and Human Rights</b>	Denmark, Finland, Norway, Sweden, European Commission, Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency, UNDP	3.4
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$62.0</b>

\* Source: UNDP Liberia, April 2010

included public advocacy, communications support, equipment and transportation. The Commission is now receiving complaints and cases from the public and undertaking investigations. It has already forwarded a case to the Ministry of Justice for prosecution.

- To support the functioning of county-level administration, we trained more than 1,200 local authority staff in all 15 Liberian counties in leadership skills, economic development, good governance and financial management. In addition, we built, furnished and equipped with computers, six new county administrative buildings.

## Fighting poverty and injustice

UNDP has a commitment to improving the lives of people in vulnerable communities. Results in 2009 include the following:

- With \$1.8 million from UNDP, approximately 547,000 people living in some of the poorest villages in Liberia's southeast region benefited directly from 55 completed projects, including feeder roads which connected farmers to markets, clinics, bridges, water wells and latrines.
- To help improve the economic status of women, UNDP trained some 17,000 destitute women, many of whom are survivors of violence, in obtaining microfinance loans. In less than one year, these loans supported recipients in setting up as many as 50 businesses in rural areas, mainly small agricultural and agro-processing initiatives and goods trading and marketing.
- UNDP trained 3,917 new police officers at the National Police Academy, of whom 576 were women. We also helped to train eight public defenders with the National Judicial Training Institute and supported their deployment to rural areas, set up their offices and organized the logistics required for their operation.
- To improve access to justice and help address gender and sexual violence in rural areas, UNDP built 11 Women and Child Protection Units and four new barracks to house police officers outside the capital city, allowing authorities to address separately issues specific to women and children. To improve operational capacity, we built a new training facility at the police academy and provided critically needed equipment to the newly-established forensic unit at the national police headquarters in Monrovia.
- UNDP also provided the Sex Crimes Unit of the Ministry of Justice with support staff, vehicles and computer equipment to help tackle its substantial case backlog. Of the 17 cases of rape, sexual abuse and domestic violence taken up, eight have been successfully prosecuted — double the number dealt with by the criminal court during the same time span in 2008.

v.2

For more information:

United Nations Development Programme  
Office of Communications  
One United Nations Plaza  
New York, NY 10017

[www.undp.org](http://www.undp.org)

