

Liberia's Climate Finance Experience

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Outline

- **NATIONAL CIRCUMSTANCES**
- **LIBERIA CLIMATE FINANCE NEEDS**
- **LIBERIA'S PRIORITIES FOR CLIMATE FINANCE**
- **CLIMATE FINANCE EXPERIENCE**
- **OPPORTUNITIES**
- **ACCESS BARRIERS**

NATIONAL CIRCUMSTANCES

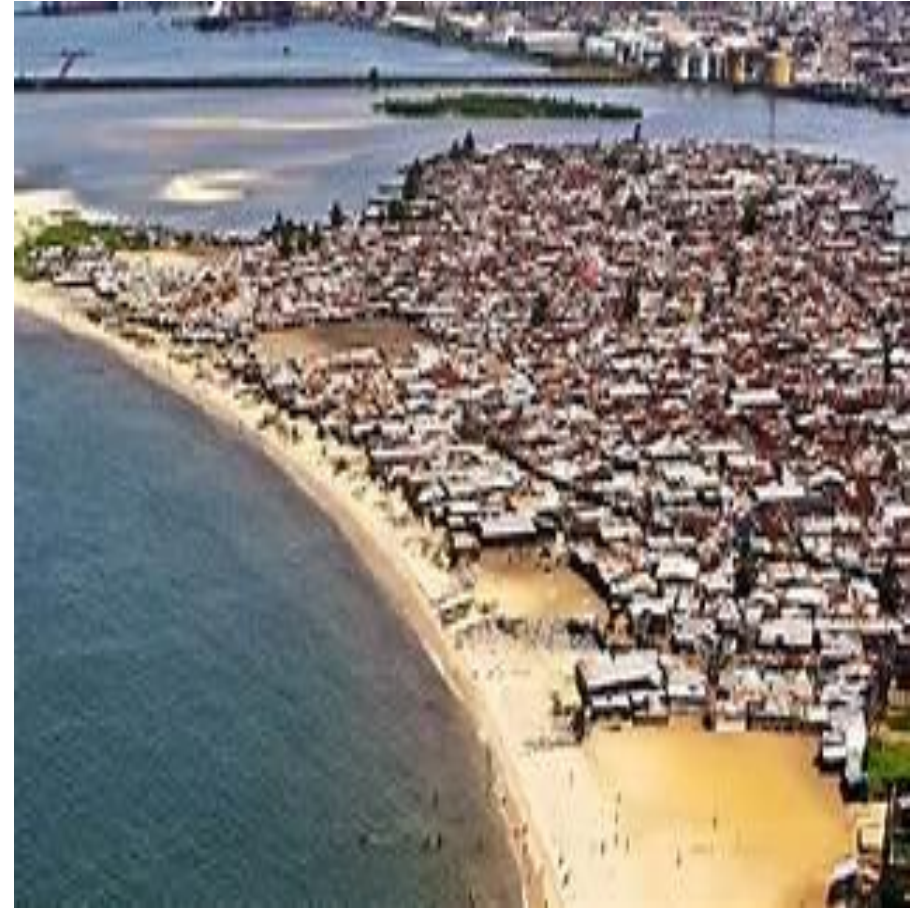
- Liberia is a Least Developed Country (LDC) situated in West Africa occupying 111,369 km² with a population of 4.93 million. The Gross Domestic Product (GDP) of Liberia is US\$ 2.76 billion with a relatively low GDP per capita of US\$ 583.8. The country is ranked 176 out of 189 countries in the Human Development Index and also been ranked 175 out of 190 countries in case of doing business.
- The country is currently susceptible to the adverse effects of climate change: **Shifting cultivation** in the agriculture sector, **unsustainable logging practices**, **unregulated coastal mining**, **high level of biomass consumption** in the form of charcoal and fire wood for local energy use, and **decreasing river flow** due to high level of evaporation are all factors contributing to climate change in Liberia.

LIBERIA CLIMATE FINANCE NEEDS

Liberia needs to attract national and international investments in renewable electricity to achieve its 30% by 2030 and carbon neutrality by 2050 commitments in the NDC.

In the adaptation area, especially in the Agriculture Sector, the climate is favourable for farming with vast forests, and an abundance of water. However, climate change is affecting food production and increasing food insecurity.

The impact of coastal erosion is also disrupting livelihoods, destroying properties and leaving many residents homeless in coastal communities due to the lack of sustainable approach to mitigate or adapt to the direct threats presented to the communities.



LIBERIA'S PRIORITIES FOR CLIMATE FINANCE

- ❑ **The Agriculture Sector:** Mixed farming; Crop Diversification; Improved Storage (drying and freezing of agriculture products); Irrigation; Value Addition; Ecological pest management; and Seed and grain storage
- ❑ **Coastal Sector:** Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM); Flood early Warning System (FWS); Rock/ Amor Revetment; Groynes; Sea-walls; Beach Nourishment; Coastal Wetland Protection & Restoration; and Restoration of coastal vegetation (Coconut trees, Almond trees, Mangroves & etc.)
- ❑ **Energy Sector:** Small Hydropower; Solar PV Grid tied; Improved clean cook stove; Solar lanterns; Biodiesel; Solar Home PV System; Methane Capture from Landfil; and Briquette Production

CLIMATE FINANCE EXPERIENCE

Liberia has not yet been successful in attracting a huge climate finance investments to archive the NDC targets. However, Liberia has thus far received 3 readiness support projects (including adaptation planning) from GCF totaling US\$ 3.291 million:

- The first readiness support proposal was approved in 2015 with UNDP as the Delivery Partner (DP) and the implementation was completed in 2019.***
- The second readiness support was for adaptation planning and was again routed through UNDP as the DP and was approved in 2016***
- Third and the most recent readiness proposal was approved in late 2019 with the NDA – EPA as the delivery partner. This readiness support will strengthen NDA capacity through training and capacity building, implementation of a strategic framework for climate information services, pipeline development and knowledge sharing and learning.***

OPPORTUNITIES

- ❑ Liberia has a youthful population with the energy and anxiety for education. Fortunately enough, they are now considering studies in climate change and other associated courses. To buttress this efforts, the EPA has partnered with UNDP to module Master's Programme in Environmental Science, now offer at the University of Liberia.
- ❑ The capabilities, track-record and scale of national institutions are now developing and is being supported by a number of key international institutions including the GCF.
- ❑ It would be fine if Liberia can directly access climate finance investments, however efforts are made to access international climate finance through international accredited entities.

ACCESS BARRIERS

- ❑ Absence of the necessary regulatory and policy framework and associated institutional capacity and the necessary procedures to attract Climate Finance;
- ❑ Higher levels of investment risk associated with investments in Liberia and absence of an appropriate de-risking mechanism;
- ❑ Absence of building blocks such as accredited entity commitment, pre-feasibility, financial modelling, environmental and social screening etc. to develop a paradigm shifting pipeline development for Liberia;
- ❑ Limited Climate Finance access knowledge in proposal development.

Thank You!!!