



Liberia's Perspective: Adopting Inclusive approaches and fostering Community led approaches to NAPs including Gender considerations

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NAP GSP SOUTH-SOUTH KNOWLEDGE EXCHANGE FORUM

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National Circumstance



Liberia covers an area of **111,369 square km (43,000 square miles)**, with 13.5% covered by water and the remaining 86.5% consisting of land. The coastline of Liberia is estimated to be 565-km in length. It is home to some of the country's largest cities and conducive to fishing and tourism.

Despite substantial forest loss over the years, Liberia is a home to a lush rainforest containing a rich diversity of flora and fauna. Interestingly, it is good to note that Liberia holds around 40% of the remaining West African moist forest (Upper Guinean Forest).

Liberia's population was estimated at 4.5 million in 2015 by the world bank and it is projected to increase to 10.3 million by 2058, with more than 70% of the population living in coastal cities including Monrovia, the country's capital.

Liberia remains one of the least developed countries.



Cont'd National Circumstance





Liberia's NAPs At A Glance



Liberia's National Adaptation Plans project supports the Government of Liberia to advance its National Adaptation Plans process in climate sensitive sectors.

The activities in this project focused on:

- (1) Strengthening institutional frameworks and coordination for implementation of the NAPs process;
- (2) Expansion of the knowledge base for scaling up adaptation;
- (3) Building capacity for mainstreaming climate change adaptation into planning, and budgeting processes and systems;
- (4) Formulation of financing mechanisms for scaling up adaptation (including public, private, national and international).



Broad-based stakeholder's consultation (private sector, youth, women, CSOs, academia etc)



During the NAPs process in Liberia there was a broad-based stakeholder consultation involving the Private sector, youth, women, Civil Society Organizations(CSOs), academia, etc. The following stakeholders were key to NAPs process because of the value each of these sectoral groupings bring toward adaptation planning due to their unique role/positioning.

Private Sector: The strategic and well-informed inclusion of the **private sector** in climate change **adaptation planning** and activities forms a key part of all countries' efforts to adapt to the impacts of climate change; they will be key partners in the design, financing and implementation of **adaptation** priorities;

Youth: Encouraging and promoting **youth-led** organizations and the **important** role they play in supporting young people's involvement with the requisite tools to embark on National adaptation interventions and actions, as well as capacity-building;



Cont'd: Broad-based stakeholder's consultation (private sector, youth, women, CSOs, academia etc)



Women: Continues to become more and more urgent in national policy processes, it is crucial that adaptation responses are pro-poor and gender-aware, informed both by gender-based vulnerabilities as well as the unique contributions of women. Gender and adaptation channeling increases women's skills and wisdom to improve adaptation efforts;

Civil Society Organizations(CSOs): civil society has an important role to play in communicating climate information and building public support for adaptation in public policy;

Academia: They address the need for research, and capacity development that will contribute significantly to solving climate change Adaptation and environmental issues in Liberia.



Community based adaptation training and tools



A Community Based-Adaptation in Liberian Simple English Training Manual was developed. This training manual was put together to make Liberians learn how the community can come together to fight climate change. [CBA Manual Final \(2\).pdf](#)

The Community Based Adaptation in Liberia simple English training manual developed by Society for Conservation of Nature Liberia(SCNL) introduced four(4) modules AND twelve(12) sessions.

Module 1: How did we get here: the basics of climate Change?

Module 2: Understanding the Impacts of Climate Change

Module 3: What do we do to Adapt to Climate Change?

Module 4: What is Disaster?

Community based adaptation training and tools





Gender and social impact assessment of climate change



“Integrating considerations of gender into medium- and long-term adaptation can help to ensure that adaptation is effective and implementable on the ground. It can help to ensure that the implementation of adaptation activities will not exacerbate inequalities and other vulnerabilities, it can help to fulfil the specific needs of the most vulnerable, and it can ensure the equal participation of men and women in the decision-making and implementation phases of these activities. Women can act as agents of change at different levels of the adaptation process.”

UNFCCC, Gender and Climate Change (UNFCCC, 2015)



Cont'd: Gender and social impact assessment of climate change



The Gender and Social impact Assessment (GSIA) of climate change was prepared for the Liberia National Adaptation Plans Project implemented by Environmental Protection Agency of Liberia in collaboration with UNDP Country Office, with funding from the Green Climate Fund. It is important to show that climate change has human rights, socio-economic and gender dimensions given that droughts, extreme weather events, tropical storms, floods and sea level rises have a disproportionately large differentiated effect on men, women and their co-laterals and undermine their efforts for social welfare, productivity and capability.



Cont'd: Gender and social impact assessment of climate change



The objective of the assessment was to update on differentiated impact of climate change on **MEN** and **WOMEN** and identity specific vulnerability and risks in three sectors : **Agriculture, Forestry, Fisheries**. The purpose of this is to inform decision- makers, planners how to fight climate change or better how to reduce the impact in setting up adequate adaptation methods from a gender perspective. By so doing, stakeholders will align closer to the government Pro-Poor Agenda for Prosperity and Development (PAPD) in the short, medium and long terms and more specifically, to the Revised National Gender Strategy. The GSIA was intended to bring into light the social dimension of climate change, but also present challenges faced by women, men, girls and boys, but also opportunities with a strong focus on vulnerable and marginalized groups, communities at grassroots levels, and with an idea to transform women generally considered as victims, agents of change when addressing climate change in mitigation and adaptation initiatives.



Cont'd: Gender and social impact assessment of climate change



Figure 2: Flooding in New Kru Town, Monrovia – Courtesy : UNDP Liberia

Figure 3: Meeting men and women in the fishery sector in Buchanan, Grand Bassa - Courtesy : UNDP Liberia



Figure 4: Impact of flooding in New Kru Town : resettlement – Courtesy : UNDP Liberia



Cont'd: Gender and social impact assessment of climate change



Discussing with Kru fishermen in Greenville – Courtesy : UNDP Liberia



Focus group discussion in Gbeydin Town, Nimba – Courtesy: UNDP Liberia



Figure 10: Meeting with women in Grand Gedeh – Courtesy : UNDP Liberia



Conclusion



Let every country-driven NAPs be **gender-sensitive**, participatory and have a fully transparent approach, taking into consideration **vulnerable groups, communities and ecosystems**, and should be based on and guided by the best available **science** and, as appropriate, **traditional and indigenous knowledge**, and by **gender-sensitive approaches**, with a view to integrating **adaptation**.

- Gender Climate Change Tracker-



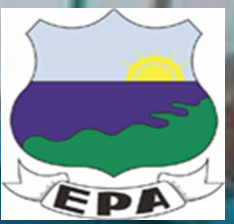
References



[CBA Manual Final \(2\).pdf](#)

[Gender & social impact assessment on climate change REPORT - FINAL 6-26-19.pdf](#)

[GCF National Adaptation Plans project in Liberia | UNDP Climate Change Adaptation \(adaptation-undp.org\)](#)



The END!!!!
Thanks for Listening

