

GOVERNMENT OF LIBERIA REALISE PROJECT

April-June 2026

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QUARTERLY
NEWSLETTER

Top Stories

- Government of Liberia Presents Crisis Response Plan to World Bank.
- Helena's Journey: A Story of Strength
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Government Presents Crisis Response Plan to World Bank.

On Wednesday, May 6, 2026, senior officials of the Government of Liberia held a high-level meeting with Madam Trina Haque, Regional Director for Human Development in the Western and Central Africa Region of the World Bank, to present a comprehensive crisis response plan developed under the Recovery of Economic Activities for Liberian Informal Sector Employment (REALISE) Project.

The meeting took place at a time of acute urgency, as Liberia faces the convergence of two major shocks: the onset of the lean season, during which household food stocks are depleted and hunger reaches its peak between June and September, and the cascading economic effects of the Middle East crisis, which has significantly increased the cost of food, fuel, and transportation in one of the world's most import-dependent economies. The Government's delegation was led by the three implementing institutions at the heart of the REALISE platform: the Honorable Gbeme Horace-Kollie, Minister of Gender, Children and Social Protection; the Honorable Cornelia Kruah, Minister of Youth and Sports and Chairperson of the REALISE Steering Committee; and Mr. Julius Sele, Executive Director of the Liberia Agency for Community Empowerment (LACE). The crisis response plan was presented to Madam Haque by Mr. Jesse Bengu, Project Coordinator and Mr. Aurelius Butler, National Coordinator for Social Protection.

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From cover page

A Crisis at the Doorstep — and a System Ready to Respond

The crisis response plan drew on evidence from the REALISE Project's own 2025 baseline field survey and from an independently verified randomized controlled trial of the Social Cash Transfer program, making the case that Liberia is not starting from scratch. Over five years of implementation, the REALISE Project has built one of the most capable social protection delivery systems in West Africa — and that system can be activated to respond to the current crisis within weeks.

The Liberia Household Social Registry, managed directly by the Ministry of Gender, Children and Social Protection, contains verified and poverty-ranked records for over 442,000 households — 35 percent of the national population. All transfers under REALISE are delivered digitally through MTN mobile money, with every transaction fully traceable and auditable. The project currently operates across 14 of Liberia's 15 counties, with government field officers and community structures already in place. As officials emphasized in the meeting, the crisis response does not require building new infrastructure — it requires activating what already exists.

The REALISE baseline Food Security and Nutrition data presented to Madam Haque underscored the scale of the challenge. In Nimba County, 99 out of 100 households reported running short of food during the lean season before this year's price increases. More than 60 percent of rural households across REALISE counties were already cutting back on meals. An estimated 15 percent of stored food is lost to insects, mold, and poor drying practices before families ever eat it. With inflation remaining elevated and a one-percentage-point increase estimated to push approximately 32,000 additional Liberians below the poverty line, the Government presented the convergence of the lean season and the Middle East price shock as an emergency demanding immediate, coordinated action.

The REALISE Crisis Response Plan — Concrete Solutions From Government Institutions

Mr. Butler presented a five-step activation plan that can reach approximately 76,000 of the most vulnerable Liberian households within days of authorization. The plan centers on two proven instruments: the Social Cash Transfer program, through which extremely poor families receive quarterly mobile money payments sized to household need, and the Community Livelihood and Agriculture Support (CLAS) program, which provides farming communities with labor subsidies, farm input grants, and community-managed infrastructure investments.

The immediate response calls for an emergency top-up payment to all 16,525 currently enrolled Social Cash Transfer households, the enrollment of at least 5,000 new households drawn directly from the Social Registry, an increase in labor subsidies and farm input grants across all 735 active CLAS communities, and the deployment of emergency Community Development Support Grants through the 432 Community Oversight Committees already functioning in the field. Food and nutrition value-addition training — teaching families to convert the crops they grow into more nutritious and marketable products — will be integrated into existing community sessions at no additional cost. Geographic expansion to communities adjacent to current CLAS sites will follow in subsequent waves.

Officials were clear that this response will be executed entirely through Liberian government institutions. The Ministry of Gender, Children and Social Protection will lead all Social Cash Transfer operations. LACE will lead all CLAS field operations, with technical support from the Ministry of Agriculture and community governance support from the Ministry of Internal Affairs. The Ministry of Finance and Development Planning holds the critical authorization lever for the first wave of disbursements, and the Ministry of Youth and Sports will continue its leadership as the chair of the REALISE project.

"The REALISE Project has helped ease the household burdens carried by Liberia's most vulnerable families — particularly women, youth, and low-income households already absorbing the weight of economic hardship. We are not here to describe a problem. We are here to present a solution. The Social Cash Transfer program, the Social Registry, and the digital payment system we have built together with the World Bank give us the capacity to act immediately. We are asking for the authorization and the continued partnership to do so."

— **Minister Gbeme Horace-Kollie, Ministry of Gender, Children and Social Protection**

"What makes REALISE different is that it has enabled government and communities to sit together, identify real needs, and design interventions that are owned at the local level. The Community Oversight Committees, the farming groups, and the community development plans that have been built through this project are not external inputs — they are Liberian solutions. Sustaining and expanding this investment is not a request for charity. It is a strategic choice to build on what works, at the moment when it matters most."

— **Minister Cornelia Kruah, Ministry of Youth and Sports and Chairperson, REALISE Steering Committee**

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SOCIAL PROTECTION

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Visit of World Bank Regional Director for Human Development in the Western and Central Africa Trina's visit in pictorial



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MGCSP Equips Grand Gedeh Students with Essential Life Skills Through Liberia Women Empowerment Project



HON. GBEME HORACE-KOLLIE
MINISTER OF GENDER
CHILDREN AND SOCIAL PROTECTION
REPUBLIC OF LIBERIA

Zai Town, Grand Gedeh County – The Ministry of Gender, Children and Social Protection (MGCSP), through the Liberia Women Empowerment Project (LWEP), continues to strengthen life skills education for young people by promoting personal development, safety, and informed decision-making among students in Grand Gedeh County.

During a recent monitoring visit at Gborho Central High School in Zai Town, project staff observed a life skills session on "Setting Healthy Boundaries," facilitated as part of the project's Girls Club activities. The session engaged 14 students, including 12 girls and 2 boys, who actively participated in discussions designed to foster self-awareness, confidence, and healthy interpersonal relationships.

Although schools are currently on break, dedicated Club Supervisors continue to provide regular life skills sessions, ensuring that club members remain engaged in meaningful learning that complements their academic education and supports their personal growth.

The sessions are helping participants build self-confidence, make informed decisions, develop positive attitudes and behaviors, recognize the importance of mutual respect, and better understand personal safety and healthy boundaries.

Through the Liberia Women Empowerment Project, MGCSP remains committed to empowering adolescent girls and young people with practical knowledge and life skills that enable them to make positive choices, protect themselves, and build safer, healthier, and more productive futures.

This story was originally written by LWEP



Youth and Sports, Labor Ministries Launch Compact to Tackle Youth Unemployment



Paynesville, Liberia – The Ministry of Youth and Sports and the Ministry of Labour have signed a Memorandum of Understanding establishing a permanent structural framework for inter-ministerial cooperation on youth employment, skills development, and labour market integration – the first instrument under the Ministry of Youth and Sports Youth Outcome Compact.

The Youth Outcome Compact is the Ministry's mechanism through which ministries whose mandates directly affect Liberia's young people will be held to shared, publicly reported accountability targets. A technical working group has been set up to implement the MoU.

As an immediate outcome of the collaboration, the two ministries announced plans to facilitate vacation employment opportunities for at least 3,000 young people across the country in 2026.

As an immediate outcome of the collaboration, the two ministries announced plans to facilitate vacation employment opportunities for at least 3,000 young people across the country. Speaking at the signing ceremony, Minister of Labor, Cllr. Cooper Kruah, described the agreement as a significant milestone in the government's efforts to address unemployment and promote youth development.

"The Ministry of Labor and the Ministry of Youth and Sports have major roles to play in Liberia's employment sector and youth development agenda," Minister Kruah said. "By working together, we will be better positioned to achieve the objectives for which our institutions were established."

He noted that the initiative would serve as "a dream come true" for many young Liberians seeking opportunities for employment and skills development.

"President Joseph Nyuma Boakai has consistently emphasized the importance of job creation for Liberians. Although many efforts are underway, the public is often unaware of the opportunities being created. This partnership will serve as an important channel for disseminating information on employment opportunities and labor market developments," he stated.

According to Minister Kruah, the collaboration will enable both institutions to combine their comparative advantages. While the Ministry of Youth and Sports utilizes its nationwide youth structures and communication platforms to engage young people, the Ministry of Labor will continue working closely with the private sector to identify employment opportunities. initiating the collaboration.

THIS STORY WAS ORIGINALLY WRITTEN BY MYS

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LACE Advances Key Government Infrastructure Projects Across Liberia



Monrovia, Liberia – The Liberia Agency for Community Empowerment (LACE) is making significant progress in implementing key Government of Liberia-funded infrastructure projects, reaffirming its commitment to delivering quality public facilities that promote education, community development, and technical skills training across the country.

As the Government's principal community-driven development agency, LACE continues to supervise and implement strategic infrastructure initiatives designed to improve access to essential public services while supporting national development priorities.

One of the flagship projects currently under construction is the Nimba University campus, where construction activities are progressing steadily. Recent works include the installation of floor tiles, completion of plastering in several sections of the facility, and ongoing interior and exterior finishing works. Once completed, the university is expected to provide a modern teaching and learning environment that will expand access to quality higher education, strengthen academic excellence, and contribute to the development of skilled human resources in Nimba County and Liberia as a whole.

In another milestone, LACE has successfully completed construction of the Gbooken Palava Hut, providing the community with a modern facility dedicated to traditional conflict resolution, peacebuilding, and community dialogue. The completed structure underscores the Government of Liberia's commitment to strengthening local governance, preserving cultural heritage, and fostering peaceful coexistence through community-based dispute resolution mechanisms.

Meanwhile, construction of the Japanese Wood Workshop continues to record steady progress. Major structural works have been completed, while roofing, plastering, and floor finishing are advancing as scheduled.

Upon completion, the facility will serve as a modern technical and vocational training center where students and trainees will acquire practical woodworking and carpentry skills, enhancing their employability and creating greater opportunities for entrepreneurship and self-reliance.

The ongoing infrastructure projects form part of the Government of Liberia's broader investment in expanding educational opportunities, strengthening community institutions, and promoting workforce development. Through these interventions, communities will benefit from improved learning facilities, enhanced access to technical and vocational education, and strengthened local governance structures.

LACE has reaffirmed its commitment to ensuring that all projects under its supervision are implemented in accordance with approved engineering standards, completed within established timelines, and deliver sustainable benefits to communities across Liberia. The agency continues to work closely with government institutions, local authorities, contractors, and beneficiary communities to ensure that these investments contribute meaningfully to the country's long-term socio-economic development.

This story was originally written by LACE

Helena's Journey: A Story of Strength and Renewal



Helena Flomo, a REALISE Project beneficiary

At the far end of western Liberia, in the community of Small Sawmill, a modest yet powerful story of transformation is unfolding—one that reflects resilience, opportunity, and the impact of well-targeted support.

Helena Flomo, a resident of the village, has redefined what economic empowerment can look like at the grassroots level. Like many in her community, Helena once faced limited opportunities for income generation. Access to electricity is scarce, and small businesses are often constrained by a lack of startup capital and infrastructure. However, her determination, combined with timely support, has helped her turn a simple idea into a sustainable livelihood.

Through the REALISE Project's Community Livelihood and Agriculture Support (CLAS) component, Helena received a labor subsidy of 350 USD. Rather than using the funds for short-term needs, she made a deliberate and strategic decision—she invested in establishing a phone charging business in her village.

In a rural setting where mobile phones are essential for communication, business, and access to information, but electricity remains a challenge, Helena's initiative quickly became both relevant and impactful. Her charging station now serves as a vital hub for community members who rely on their phones to stay connected with family, conduct mobile money transactions, and receive important updates.

In a conversation with during a joint field visit. Helena said, "My husband and I decided to buy solar panel and battery for our business."

She noted that the business is now generating more fund for her family, and helping the community. "When I received the 350 USD from the REALISE Project, I knew I wanted to do something that would help me and my community at the same time. Today, my phone charging business is not only supporting my family, but it is also helping people in this village stay connected. I am proud of what I have started, and I am grateful for the opportunity."

What began as a small setup has grown into a dependable source of income for Helena. Beyond the financial benefits, her business has also enhanced convenience for residents of Small Sawmill Town, reducing the need for long and costly trips to Bopolu the Capital of Gbarpolu County just to charge their devices.

Helena shared her inspiring journey during a recent joint field visit by the REALISE Project team and staff from the Swedish Embassy. Speaking with confidence and pride, she explained how the support she received not only helped her start a business but also gave her a renewed sense of independence.

Her story stood out as a clear example of how targeted interventions can create lasting change when beneficiaries are empowered to make their own economic decisions. Helena emphasized that the labor subsidy was more than just financial assistance—it was an opportunity to build something meaningful for herself and her community.

Today, Helena Flomo is not just a beneficiary; she is an entrepreneur, a service provider, and a role model in Small Sawmill Town. Her journey highlights the broader impact of the REALISE Project in fostering resilience, promoting local enterprise, and improving livelihoods.



REALISE Launches PROBLUE Program to Support 50 Fishmongers in West Point



West Point Township, Monrovia – June 11, 2026 – The Recovery of Economic Activities for Liberian Informal Sector Employment (REALISE) Project has officially launched the PROBLUE Program in West Point Township, an initiative aimed at improving the livelihoods of fishmongers and strengthening economic opportunities within Liberia's coastal communities.

The program will provide direct business support to 50 fishmongers operating in West Point Township. Under the initiative, each selected beneficiary will receive a US\$900 business grant, disbursed in two tranches, to help expand and strengthen their small businesses.

Beyond the financial support, beneficiaries will participate in a comprehensive capacity-building program designed to enhance both personal and business development. The package includes life skills training, entrepreneurship and business management training, mentorship, and coaching support to ensure participants are equipped with the knowledge and skills needed to sustain and grow their enterprises.

Speaking at the launch, REALISE Communications Officer Henry Sumo said the initiative demonstrates the project's commitment to empowering vulnerable informal sector workers and promoting sustainable livelihoods.

"The PROBLUE Program is more than just a grant initiative. It is an investment in the resilience, growth, and long-term success of fishmongers in West Point. Through a combination of financial support, life skills development, and business training, we are providing beneficiaries with the tools they need to improve their businesses, increase their incomes, and support their families," Sumo stated.

He added that the project recognizes the critical role fishmongers play in Liberia's local economy and food supply chain, noting that targeted support to the sector can contribute significantly to community development and poverty reduction.

The PROBLUE Program forms part of the broader efforts of the REALISE Project to create economic opportunities, strengthen livelihoods, and build resilience among vulnerable populations.



Strengthening Gender Mainstreaming



Monrovia, Liberia – The REALISE Project has concluded a two-day comprehensive training for Gender Officers across government institutions, reinforcing efforts to integrate gender-responsive approaches into national programs and policies.

The training, held at Corina Hotel in Sinkor, brought together Gender Officers from various ministries, agencies, and commissions to enhance their capacity in gender mainstreaming, social protection, and inclusive development.

Speaking during the session, Vivian Kanneh, Gender Officer for the REALISE Project, emphasized the importance of equipping government actors with the right tools to ensure that development interventions are inclusive and equitable.

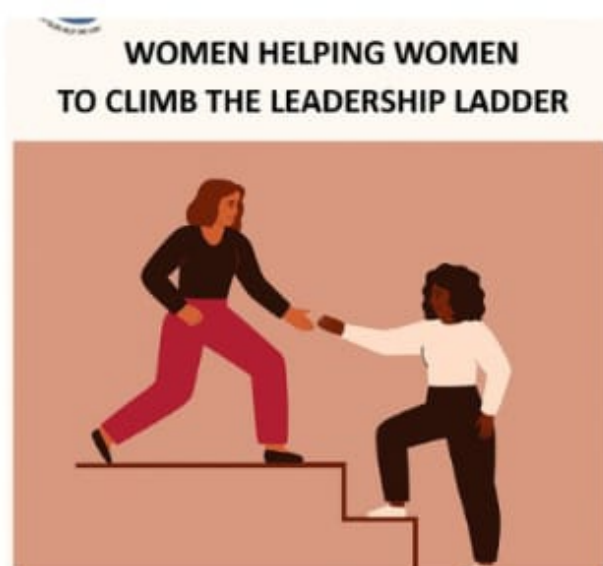
“This training is about strengthening the ability of Gender Officers to effectively advocate for and implement gender-sensitive policies within their respective institutions. When gender is properly integrated, development outcomes improve for everyone, especially women and vulnerable groups,” Kanneh stated.

Participants engaged in interactive discussions, practical exercises, and knowledge-sharing sessions aimed at addressing real-world challenges in gender integration across sectors.

Also addressing the training, Aurelius Butler, National Coordinator for Social Protection, underscored the government’s commitment to advancing gender equality through structured capacity-building initiatives.

“The Government of Liberia, through the REALISE Project, remains committed to ensuring that no one is left behind. Strengthening the capacity of Gender Officers is critical to achieving inclusive social protection and sustainable development,” Butler noted.

The initiative forms part of the REALISE Project’s broader objective to enhance institutional capacity and promote inclusive service delivery, particularly for women and marginalized populations.



Transparency, Accountability, Core of REALISE Project Implementation



Monrovia, Liberia-The Deputy Project Coordinator of the Recovery of Economic Activities for Liberian Informal Sector Employment (REALISE) Project, Anita Marshall, has emphasized that transparency and accountability remain the foundation of all project activities. According to Madam Marshall, these principles guide decision-making, implementation, monitoring, and engagement with beneficiaries.

Remarks at the SIDA Dialogue Symposium

Speaking recently at a one-day symposium organized by the Swedish Embassy in Monrovia Madam Marshall highlighted the importance of maintaining public trust through open and responsible project management. She noted that development initiatives can only achieve their intended impact when stakeholders and beneficiaries are fully informed and actively involved throughout the implementation process.

Beneficiaries at the Center of the Process

Madam Marshall stressed that beneficiaries of the REALISE Project are treated with the highest level of openness and respect at every stage of project implementation. From community consultations and beneficiary identification to program delivery and monitoring, project participants are provided with the information necessary to understand their rights, responsibilities, and available opportunities under the project.



Social Cohesion

Madam Marshall said, at the result of transparency, the project has created social cohesion among beneficiaries. "Through our community-driven approach, the project promotes inclusion, participation, and collaboration among diverse groups, ensuring that vulnerable populations, youth, women, and persons with disabilities are actively engaged in development activities" Anita said.

She said, "by creating opportunities for dialogue, collective decision-making, and equitable access to project benefits, REALISE is helping to strengthen trust between communities and institutions while fostering peaceful coexistence and shared economic progress".

Building Sustainable Community Trust

Madam Marshall concluded by reaffirming the project's commitment to transparency, accountability, and inclusiveness. She noted that "these values are essential for fostering sustainable development outcomes and ensuring that the REALISE Project continues to make a meaningful impact on the lives of Liberians". Through its people-centered approach, the project remains dedicated to empowering beneficiaries while promoting integrity and trust in all aspects of its operations.



AFD, REALISE PMT Visit Dementa, Palelowai Towns



DEMENTA, Bong County – June 17, 2026 – A delegation from the French Development Agency (AFD) and the Project Management Team (PMT) of the Recovery of Economic Activity for Liberian Informal Sector Employment (REALISE) Project on Wednesday conducted a field visit to Dementa and Palelowai Towns in Bong County to assess progress under the Community Livelihood and Agriculture Support (CLAS) component.

The visit provided an opportunity for development partners and project officials to interact directly with beneficiaries, observe ongoing agricultural activities, and evaluate the impact of climate-smart agriculture interventions being implemented in rural communities. The CLAS component of the REALISE Project is supporting thousands of rural households through communal farming, livelihood support and climate-smart agriculture techniques aimed at increasing food security and building resilience to climate change.

Speaking during the visit, Sotty Eliot, representing AFD, expressed satisfaction with the progress being made in the beneficiary communities. He noted that the project is delivering tangible benefits to rural households and strengthening their capacity to improve agricultural productivity.

“What we have seen today is encouraging. The commitment demonstrated by community members shows that the support being provided through the REALISE Project is making a difference. It is important that beneficiaries continue to apply the skills and knowledge gained through the project to improve their livelihoods and ensure long-term sustainability,” Eliot said.

Also addressing the gathering, Jesse Bengu, Project Coordinator of the REALISE Project, reaffirmed the project’s commitment to supporting vulnerable rural communities through innovative and sustainable livelihood interventions.

“The REALISE Project is designed to empower communities and strengthen their resilience. Through the CLAS component, we are not only providing resources and support, but we are also equipping beneficiaries with practical skills that will help them adapt to changing environmental conditions and increase agricultural productivity,” Bengu stated.

One of the highlights of the visit was testimony from beneficiaries, including Orlando, secretary of the Palelowai farming group, who spoke about the transformative impact of the climate-smart agriculture training received through the project.

“Before this training, we relied mainly on traditional farming methods and often struggled with poor yields. Through the climate-smart agriculture training, I have learned the importance of proper land preparation, crop management, climate risk awareness, soil conservation, and the use of improved farming practices. We now understand how weather information can help us make better decisions about planting and harvesting,” Orlando explained.

He added that the knowledge acquired has helped farmers become more confident in managing their farms and responding to climate-related challenges.

“The training has changed the way we think about farming. We have learned techniques that help us protect our crops, improve production, and better prepare for changes in weather conditions. We are grateful to the REALISE Project, AFD, and all partners for bringing these opportunities to our communities,” he said.

The REALISE Project has made climate-smart agriculture a key part of its Community Livelihood and Agriculture Support program, recognizing the increasing threats posed by climate change to Liberia’s agricultural sector.

The visit concluded with interactions between project officials, community leaders, and beneficiaries, who reaffirmed their commitment to ensuring the success and sustainability of the interventions being implemented in Dementa and Palelowai Towns.

The REALISE Project is funded by the World Bank, the French Development Agency (AFD), the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (SIDA), and the Government of Liberia. opportunities for vulnerable Liberians across the country.



COMPONENT UPDATES

The project originally targeted 53,650 vulnerable households and informal workers in urban areas for Montserrado and Margibi counties, and rural areas for other counties. The number has increased to over 60,000 beneficiaries. The REALISE Project has six components.

Component one

Grant Support to Vulnerable Households to Revive or Start Small Businesses (SSB)

This component provides support to poor and vulnerable households in Montserrado and Margibi Counties, operating Non-Farm Household Enterprises (small businesses) in urban areas that have been impacted by the spread of COVID-19 in Liberia and the current global food and fuel crises on their livelihoods. Specifically, the component will protect livelihoods by providing support to small businesses that would likely have survived had COVID-19 not struck, and that could be expected to continue to provide livelihoods once the pandemic has passed. For each household selected to receive the grant, a household representative is selected to represent the household in terms of participating in the business management training, getting registered for mobile money, and receiving the cash grant on behalf of the household. This representative must be female for at least 50 percent of the households selected for the grant support.

RECENT ACHIEVEMENT

This component has successfully achieved its target of reaching 4,450 beneficiaries in Margibi and Montserrado Counties. Recognizing the importance of supporting Liberia's informal economy, particularly small businesses, the World Bank is collaborating with the REALISE Project to continue this intervention on a small scale under a new initiative known as PROBLUE.

The PROBLUE program will build on the successes of the original program by providing additional support to vulnerable small fishmonger business owners, helping to strengthen livelihoods, promote economic resilience, and create sustainable income-generating opportunities.

As of today, the PROBLUE initiative has registered nearly 300 fishmongers in the Township of West Point and has enrolled 50 beneficiaries through a lottery selection process.

The selected participants will receive support under the program, including business development training, life-skills coaching, and grant assistance aimed at strengthening their livelihoods and expanding their economic opportunities.

COMPONENT TWO: LABOR-INTENSIVE PUBLIC WORKS (LIPW)

The objective of component two is to facilitate the re-entry of poor and vulnerable informal workers into productive employment and contribute positively to climate change adaptation through a series of community-driven development activities that aim to improve the environment and well-being of poor and vulnerable communities in urban areas.

RECENT ACHIEVEMENT

Under the current Round 5 of the LIPW Component implementation is taking in a total of 38 communities with 3,800 beneficiaries in both Margibi and Montserrado Counties.

The largest share of activities is in Montserrado County, where 32 communities are participating in the program, reaching 3,205 beneficiaries. In Margibi County, the project is supporting six communities, with 595 beneficiaries. The successful implementation of Round 5 demonstrates the project's continued commitment to expanding temporary job opportunities for residents.

COMPONENT UPDATES

Component Five

Community Livelihood and Agriculture Support (CLAS)

The CLAS component aims to improve livelihood opportunities and climate resilience for poor and vulnerable populations in rural areas of Liberia, directly responding to the current food crisis. It targets 16,200 direct beneficiaries across 3 rounds of implementation in 578 project communities and counties. It will support Beneficiary Farming Groups (BFG) in developing subprojects, and receive US\$1,800 farm start-up grants to procure inputs. Provide life Skills and business management training and promote climate-smart agricultural practices. This component will offer cash transfers of US\$350 to each beneficiary as a labor subsidy to help smooth consumption during the lean season. Provides Community Development Support (CDS) grants of up to US\$1,800, alongside technical assistance, to each participating community to help maintain or improve small-scale common infrastructures, Provide Technical Assistance (TA) and business grants of up to US\$20,000 to Cooperatives over three years to create market links support (MLS) for beneficial groups and their communities. Provide logistical assistance to MIA and MOA extension officers at the County and district levels to support project beneficiaries.

RECENT ACHIEVEMENT

At the end of December 2026, the CLAS component would have reached 24,255 households, in 735 communities across the country.

The beneficiaries are divided in two categories: One, 28 individuals in each community make up the Beneficiaries farming group (BFG). These individuals receive labor subsidy and tool grants for working on their own communal farm. Two, 5 individuals in each community constitute the Community Oversight Community (COC), responsible to occasionally supervise and resolve conflict within the BFG. Their primary goal is to implement the Community Development Support projects

This component is supporting 303 communities under the current round (3) with development grants. Each community has already received \$1,800.00 to implement any project of their choice in line with the project's goals. Ove 9,000 households are benefiting in seven counties currently. Out of the 303 communities implementing community project, 136 projects have been completed, while 167 remain under implementation and are progressing toward completion.

Component Six

Social Cash Transfer (SCT) Program

The objective of this component supports poor and food-insecure households in the selected counties through the provision of SCTs to targeted beneficiaries. Specially, it provide incomes support to about 16,000 poor and food-insecure households in River Gee, Grand Kru Grand Bassa, and Rivercess.

Strengthening of the National Social Protection System

The objective of this sub-component improves efficiency, enhance capacity building, and strengthening the national social protection system through continued development of the basic building blocks of a safety net delivery system.

The subcomponent enhances the following: (a) consultant services to expand LHSR data collection and functionalities of the MIS; (b) technical advisory services and workshops to strengthen the LHSR visibility, utility, sustainability, and interoperability; and (c) TA, assessments, and training to strengthen the GRM.

Social Cash Transfer Surpasses Original 16,000 Beneficiaries' Target



Monrovia, Liberia – The Recovery of Economic Activity for Liberian Informal Sector Employment (REALISE) Project has achieved a major milestone under its Social Cash Transfer (SCT) Component by successfully exceeding its original target of supporting **16,000 poor and food-insecure households** in **Grand Bassa, Grand Kru, Rivercess, and River Gee Counties**.

Implemented by the **Ministry of Gender, Children and Social Protection (MGCSP)** under the Government of Liberia and financed through the REALISE Project, the Social Cash Transfer Component has become a critical lifeline for thousands of vulnerable households, helping families meet their most basic needs while strengthening Liberia's national social protection system. The component was originally designed to provide regular unconditional cash transfers to 16,000 households in the four counties and has now successfully met—and surpassed—that target.

The intervention has provided much-needed financial support to some of Liberia's poorest households, enabling beneficiaries to improve food security, access healthcare, keep children in school, and better withstand economic shocks.

Deputy Project Coordinator for Social Assistance and Component Manager **Shadrach Gbokie** described the achievement as a significant milestone in the Government's efforts to protect Liberia's most vulnerable citizens.

"Surpassing our original target of 16,000 beneficiary households demonstrates that with strong partnerships, effective planning, and community participation, we can deliver meaningful social protection services to those who need them most. These transfers are restoring hope and helping vulnerable families improve their daily lives."

The National Social Protection Coordinator at the Ministry of Gender, Children and Social Protection and the REALISE Project, **Aurelius Butler**, emphasized that the success of the program extends beyond cash assistance, noting that it represents a major investment in building a stronger and more responsive social protection system for Liberia.

"The REALISE Social Cash Transfer Component is not only delivering financial support to vulnerable households; it is strengthening Liberia's entire social protection architecture. Through the Liberia Household Social Registry and improved digital systems, we are creating a foundation that will enable Government and development partners to respond more effectively to poverty and future shocks."

" He spoke during the recent Social Protection Coordination meeting in Monrovia.

Mr. Butler added that the strengthened national systems will continue to improve the targeting and delivery of social protection programs long after the REALISE Project concludes, ensuring that the country's poorest citizens remain at the center of national development efforts.

REALISE Project Coordinator **Jesse Bengu** described the achievement as another demonstration of the project's commitment to delivering tangible results that directly improve the lives of Liberians.

"Meeting and exceeding the original target of the Social Cash Transfer Program reflects the REALISE Project's unwavering commitment to delivering measurable impact".

Mr. Bengu further noted that the success of the component highlights the importance of collaboration among government institutions, development partners, local authorities, and beneficiary communities in delivering sustainable development outcomes.

The Social Cash Transfer program forms part of the six components of the REALISE Project, a flagship Government of Liberia initiative financed by the World Bank, the French Development Agency (AFD), and the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida). The project seeks to increase access to income-earning opportunities for vulnerable households, expand livelihood support, and strengthen Liberia's social protection systems.

success Stories

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CLAS Beneficiary-Lofa

"Thanks to the REALISE Project's CLAS support, I have regained confidence because I can now support my family with the profits from my farming activities."

”

“



CLAS Beneficiary-Bong

"Before REALISE, the entire village struggled to clean our rice. Now we pound and clean our rice just in few minutes because of the new rice mill the project bought for us."

”

“



CLAS Beneficiary-Nimba

"The seeds, tools, and training we received through the CLAS component have transformed the way we make farm here."

”

"The REALISE cash transfer gave me the opportunity to feed my family, keep them in school, and start a small business that is changing our lives."



SCT Beneficiary- Grand Bassa

”



LIPW Beneficiary-Margibi

"Well, I thank the REALISE Project for helping me acquire a life-changing skill. Through the project, I learned tie-dye, and after completing the training, I plan to start my own business and build a better future for myself."

“



SCT Beneficiary Grand Bassa

"Because of the cash transfer, my children no longer miss school, and I now believe they have a brighter future. As a visually impaired person, I also built my own house"

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“

"The support from the REALISE Cash Transfer Program helped me to expand my small shop. It has given my family hope again."

SCT Beneficiary Grand Kru



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AFD AND PMT VISIT TO BONG COUNTY JUNE 17, 2026



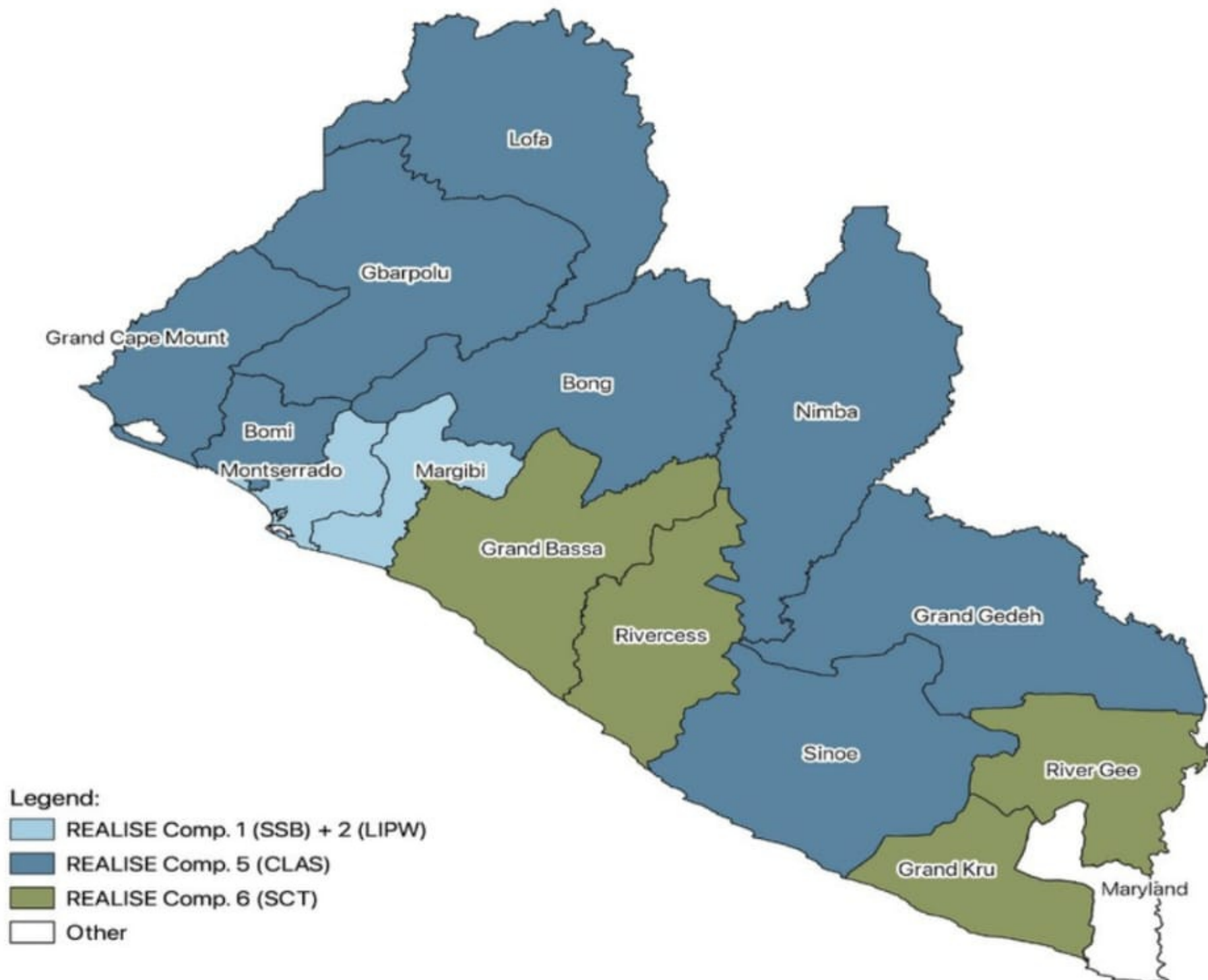
PICTORIAL FROM OFFICIAL LAUNCH OF PROBLUE IN THE TOWNSHIP OF WEST-POINT



PICTORIAL OF SOCIAL PROTECTION COORDINATION MEETING



REALISE PROJECT



Project Development Objectives (PDO)

The PDO is to increase access to income-earning opportunities for the vulnerable in the informal sector in response to crises, expand income and livelihood support to poor and food-insecure households, and improve efficiency in managing social protection programs in Liberia.

Implemented by:



Funded by:



Hotline Free to Call

3344

Email: info@liberiasp.gov.lr
www.realise.liberiasp.gov.lr

