United Nations Development Assistance Framework for Liberia 2008-2012
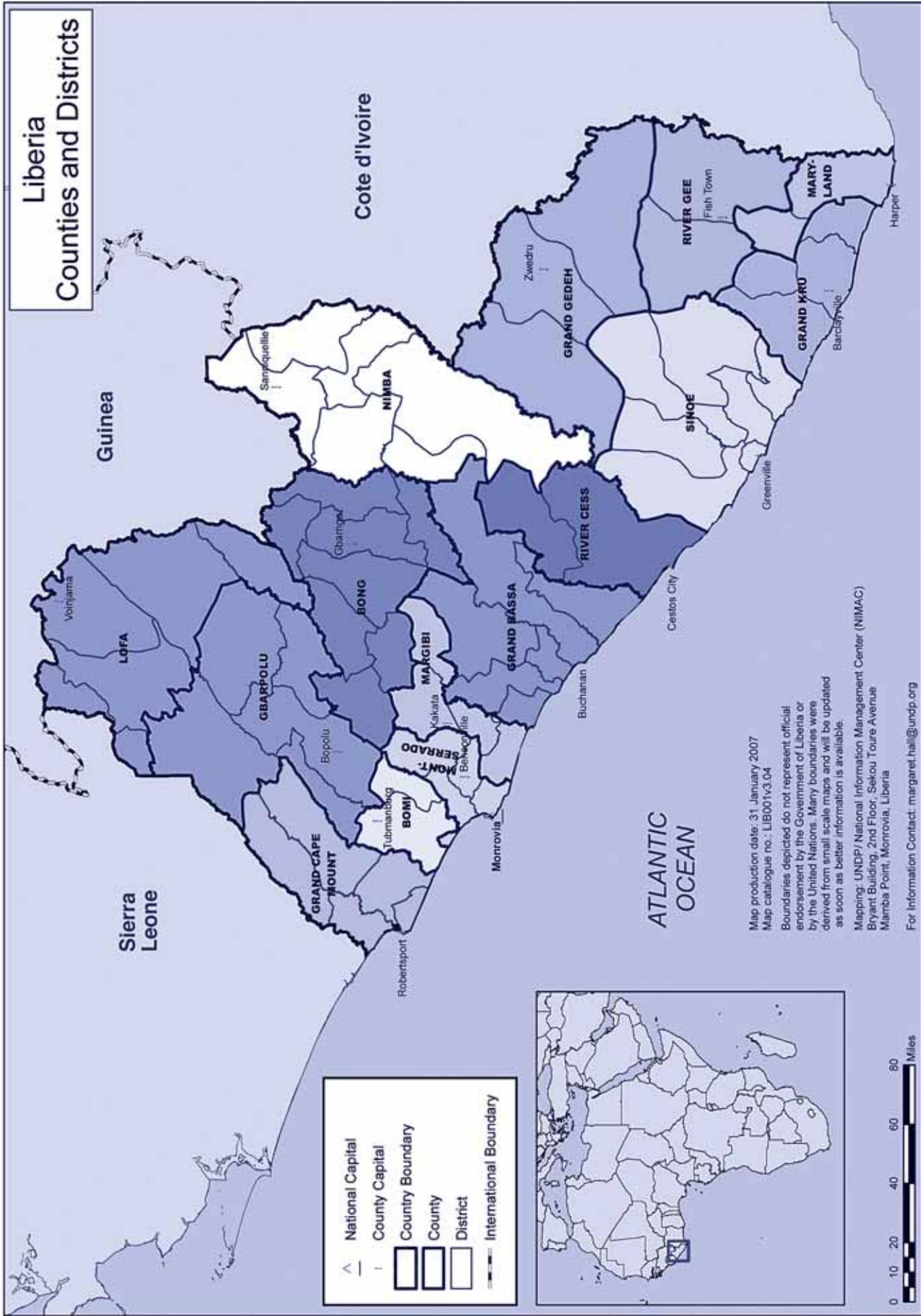
Consolidating Peace and National Recovery for Sustainable Development

May 2007

Liberia
Counties and Districts

Guinea

Sierra Leone

Cote d'Ivoire

ATLANTIC OCEAN

Counties and towns

GRAND CAPE MOUNT
Robertsport

LOFA
Voinjama

GBARPOLU
Bopolu

BONG
Gbarnga

NIMBA
Sanniquellie

GRAND GEDEH
Zwedru

RIVER GEE
Fish Town

MARY-LAND
Harper

GRAND KRU
Barclayville

SINOE
Greenville

RIVER CESS
Cestos City

GRAND BASSA
Buchanan

MARGIBI
Kakata

MONT-SERRADO
Bensonville
Monrovia

BOMI
Tubmanburg

Legend

< National Capital
- County Capital
☐ Country Boundary
☐ County
☐ District
‑‑‑ International Boundary

Map production date: 31 January 2007
Map catalogue no.: LIB01v3.04

Boundaries depicted do not represent official endorsement by the Government of Liberia or by the United Nations. Many boundaries were derived from small scale maps and will be updated as soon as better information is available.

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United Nations Development Assistance Framework 2008-2012

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FOREWORD
BY THE GOVERNMENT OF LIBERIA

The coming years are critical as we set Liberia on an irreversible path towards recovery and long-term development. In this regard, the Government of Liberia, in collaboration with its development partners, recently launched the process to develop a medium-term MDG-based Poverty Reduction Strategy to cover the period 2008-2012. The intended strategy is expected to build on the achievements of the on-going Interim Poverty Reduction Strategy, which began in July 2006. Therefore the period of the forthcoming strategy shall be used mainly to consolidate the gains made and lay the needed foundation for sustained development.

What needs to be stressed, as the United Nations family and the Liberian nation embark upon the implementation of the first ever United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF) in Liberia, is the evolving commitment of the Liberian people and nation to rebuild and secure a better life. Living up to this commitment will mean pursuing concrete projects and programmes that will consolidate the peace, keep the economy on a sound footing, deepen the democratic culture and strengthen the rule of law nationwide. It also means building strategic partnerships with all actors, including institutions of the United Nations system, especially in the identification and implementation of projects and programmes.

It is within this strategic context that the Government of Liberia welcomes with deep appreciation the collaborative initiative and common programming framework of the United Nations system. "We are particularly pleased with, and commend, the decision of the United Nations agencies operating in Liberia to act with greater coherence and efficiency in the delivery of services to our people." No doubt the UNDAF shall contribute to our own planning and programming framework, which is currently in progress. Consequently, the Government of Liberia welcomes the spirit of partnership embedded in the document and the readiness to readjust, where necessary, and integrate planned activities into national priorities during the implementation period.

In concluding, let me reaffirm, on behalf of the Government of Liberia, our endorsement of the principles of the Millennium Declaration and commitment to achieving the Millennium Development Goals. Programme interventions to meet our commitments shall be fully defined over the next few months. We call on the United Nations family to join us in the process, and together we can be assured that the UNDAF will be the "living document" it has been characterized as.

Toga Gayewea McIntosh
Minister of Planning and Economic Affairs
Republic of Liberia

PREFACE BY THE SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

The election of Africa's first female president was a major milestone in Liberia's journey from the desperation and brutality of war towards peace, prosperity and human rights for all. Despite considerable progress since the end of the war, formidable reconstruction and development challenges remain. Fourteen years of civil strife and a long history of economic mismanagement have taken their toll on Liberian society and the economy. The country still faces persistent humanitarian needs that must be overcome before real development progress can be achieved.

The United Nations welcomes Liberia's interim Poverty Reduction Strategy (iPRS) as an important step forward. We look forward to working with the government and other partners to ensure rapid implementation of the iPRS and the preparation and implementation of a full Poverty Reduction Strategy (PRS).

This UNDAF sets out the programmatic response of the United Nations to the iPRS and the full PRS. The United Nations must deliver as one to foster reconciliation, address inequality and support the government's development strategy. The role of the United Nations is to assist the government in its efforts to realize the principles and goals of the Millennium Declaration.

Liberia has an historic opportunity to embark on a new development path. It is clear from the tragic history of conflict and social disintegration that development policymaking and programming will only succeed if it is inclusive and based upon the broadest public participation. A keen understanding of the residual potential for conflict must inform all development efforts. Development partners must harmonize instruments and approaches through joint assessments, shared analysis and joint programming in support of government priorities. Development initiatives must assign a central role to civil society and promote the development of domestic markets. We must also set common objectives and monitor these indicators and benchmarks in a rigorous and objective manner.

The United Nations congratulates the Government of Liberia on its recent successes. We look forward to working with the government and other development partners to achieve peace, prosperity and equality for all Liberians.

Alan Doss
Special Representative of the Secretary-General and
Coordinator of the United Nations Operations in Liberia

STATEMENT OF COMMITMENT
UNITED NATIONS COUNTRY TEAM

Liberia is committed to the values and guiding principles of development as outlined in the Millennium Declaration, which it signed in 2000. These values include freedom, equality, solidarity, tolerance, respect for nature and shared responsibility.

Building on the analysis in the Common Country Assessment, this United Nations Development Assistance Framework specifies outcomes that we, together as the United Nations, have committed to achieve in the response to national priorities as outlined in the interim Poverty Reduction Strategy and further articulated through regional consultations at the county level.

Without dramatic reforms and the implementation of appropriate policies, Liberians stand little chance of enjoying the rights enshrined in the Millennium Declaration. Therefore, the goals set out in this framework are ambitious but necessary. Liberia also has a unique opportunity to ensure that the root causes of past conflict are addressed and recent achievements in the recovery effort are consolidated. Moving forward on these fronts will create a firm foundation for sustained peace and development.

In partnership with the government and the people of Liberia, we are committed to strengthening our programmatic and advocacy efforts to advance the principles of greater freedom, equality and social justice in accord with the United Nations Charter and the Millennium Declaration. We stand ready to support the efforts of Liberia in achieving rapid, equitable and sustainable economic growth, to ensure access to quality basic social services, and to build a just, democratic, prosperous and peaceful nation for all the people of Liberia.

Dr. Winfred Hammond, FAO Representative	Ahmed Ferej, UNESCO OIC	Izeduwa Derex-Briggs, UNIFEM Interim Programme Manager
Sina Chuma-Mkandawire, ILO Director	Rose Gakuba, UNFPA Representative	Michael Knowles, UNOPS Country Coordinator
Gabriel Frailich, IOM Chief of Mission	Lancelot Lake, UN-HABITAT Chief Technical Advisor	Louis Imbleau, WFP Representative
Dr. Leopold Zekeng, UNAIDS Country Coordinator	Dorota Gierycz, OHCHR Representative	Dr. Eugene Nyarko, WHO Representative
Steven Ursino, UNDP Country Director	Raouf Mazou, UNHCR OIC	Luigi Giovine, World Bank Country Manager
Muralee Thummarukudy, UNEP OIC	Rozanne Chorlton, UNICEF Representative	Jordan Ryan Deputy Special Representative of the Secretary-General, Resident Coordinator and Humanitarian Coordinator
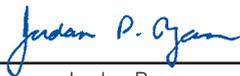
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Despite considerable progress since the end of the civil war, Liberia still confronts formidable reconstruction and development challenges. The legacy of despotism, conflict and social disintegration – coupled with pervasive poverty, food insecurity, illiteracy and unemployment – continues to thwart Liberia's recovery and rehabilitation. To address this, the Government of Liberia must revitalize public institutions and press forward with reforms. The direct and intensive engagement of the Liberian people in policymaking and reform processes is essential to the success of reconstruction and development.

The United Nations welcomes Liberia's interim Poverty Reduction Strategy (iPRS) 2006-2008 as an important step forward and is committed to supporting the proposed MDG-based PRS for 2008-2012. For the iPRS to succeed, attention must be paid to the continuing humanitarian emergency in Libieria. The right to healthcare, safe water and sanitation, shelter and education remains out of reach for the vast majority of Liberians today. Reintegration of all of Liberia's 100,000 ex-combatants, and the larger war-affected population, must continue to be addressed. Until the rule of law is fully institutionalized, protection issues will also remain a serious humanitarian concern.

This United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF) sets out the specific areas of response of the United Nations to Liberia's national recovery and development challenges. Informed by the analysis of the United Nations Common Country Assessment for Liberia (June 2006) and engagement in the PRS process, five UNDAF outcomes are articulated, corresponding to the timeframe of the PRS.

These outcomes have been further validated through a process of regional consultations involving county and district authorities. Given that the United Nations intends to remain responsive to national needs, this UNDAF and associated programme documents should be viewed as evolving processes that will be modified as the government's strategy develops and new data become available.

The progressive transfer of security responsibility from the United Nations Mission in Liberia (UNMIL) to national entities will take place during the period of this UNDAF. Against this background, the first outcome of the UNDAF targets increasing capacity of national and local authorities to provide security, manage conflict and prevent violence while respecting human rights. Related 'country programme outcomes' are (i) an increasingly accountable security sector, (ii) the consolidation of national reconciliation and reintegration with a focus on youth empowerment, and (iii) greater capacity to prevent conflict and manage conflict-sensitive development at all levels.

National economic policies and programmes will be implemented to support equitable, inclusive and sustainable socio-economic development, as stated in the second UNDAF outcome. Related United Nations agency country programmes will help ensure that national management and implementation frameworks are strengthened along with capacities for MDG-based policy planning, analysis and monitoring. Increased access to decent and productive employment and sustainable livelihood opportunities is essential, especially for vulnerable groups. A comprehensive effort to improve

household food security will also be undertaken with sustainable natural resource management, environmental protection and the promotion of gender equality.

As stated in the third UNDAF outcome, the rule of law and democratic, accountable and transparent governance will be advanced in a participatory and inclusive manner and in accordance with human rights standards. Associated country programme outcomes promote and sustain rights-based justice and the delivery of services and the strengthened representation of people – especially women. National and local mechanisms will be enhanced to uphold human rights and provide social protection. The United Nations is committed to use its innovative County Support Team (CST) approach to bolster the capacity of local authorities in Liberia's 15 counties. The United Nations will also support the legislative and electoral systems, partnering with civil society organizations and cooperating on a national youth policy.

Improved health and education, with an emphasis on reduced maternal and child mortality and increased learning achievement, is the fourth MDG-based UNDAF outcome. This will be the primary focus of the United Nations support for basic social services in Liberia. Results will be achieved through increased access to quality education and reduced maternal and under-five mortality. Specific nutrition, water, sanitation and hygiene awareness outputs are included under this outcome.

Liberia faces many challenges, but one that can have dire consequences is the potential spread of HIV/AIDS. As the final UNDAF outcome, the United Nations makes a commitment to work collectively in this area by providing support to the creation of an enabling environment and capacities to prevent the spread of HIV/AIDS. The United Nations will also engage with partners to provide treatment, care and support to people living with HIV/AIDS and to address related stigma and discrimination.

A number of cross-cutting issues relevant to the entire UNDAF have been mainstreamed throughout the five UNDAF theme areas.

For Liberia to move successfully towards achieving MDGs and securing human rights for all its citizens, a fundamental recognition and commitment to avert further conflict is paramount. Policies and programmes must address the root causes of conflict in Liberia and work towards sustaining the peace. Every effort will be needed to ensure that initiatives serve to reduce, rather than increase, inequalities and inequities. The reduction of poverty will depend on the inclusion of youth in the economic and political life of the country. Deeply rooted domestic violence and sexual- and gender-based violence necessitate the promotion of equality and the mainstreaming of gender issues into national policies. Ensuring environmental sustainability is a key cross-cutting issue that will require integrating principles of sustainable development into national strategies, policies and development activities.

Capacity development is central to this UNDAF. The United Nations strives to support the government to realize its commitments to the people of Liberia by supporting the establishment of effective institutions and systems, identifying capacity gaps and providing technical support for a functioning civil service. The United Nations will align its responses towards common objectives, achieving outcomes that draw on the comparative advantage of individual agencies to help ensure that the government can realize the principles and goals of the Millennium Declaration for all Liberians.

I. INTRODUCTION

Context

During Liberia's 14-year civil war, 800,000 Liberians were displaced and an estimated 270,000 were killed. Thousands were sexually abused and the fabric of society was greatly undermined. Destruction to the nation's infrastructure and economy was immense.

The Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA) of August 2003 and United Nations Security Council Resolution (SCR) 1509 provided a renewed chance for peace and stability in Liberia. A major international peacekeeping mission was deployed and the National Transitional Government of Liberia (NTGL) formed. Under the NTGL, the Results-Focused Transitional Framework (RFTF) was initiated and 700 million US dollars disbursed – largely on elections, security, basic social services and humanitarian interventions.

More than 100,000 ex-combatants, of whom 12,000 were children, were disarmed and demobilized in the first phase of the national process of Disarmament, Demobilization, Rehabilitation and Reintegration (DDRR) in 2004. More than 700,000 of the internally displaced and refugees are back home – while some 80,000 remain in countries of asylum in the sub-region.

National elections were held in late 2005 and Ellen Johnson Sirleaf was elected as the first female president in Africa. Since this time, the government and people of Liberia, with enormous goodwill and support from the international community, have achieved much. The government has made substantial progress in formulating an interim Poverty Reduction Strategy (iPRS) following an initial 150-day Action Plan that tackled revising the civil service code, cleaning up procurement processes, introducing internal controls, overhauling financial management procedures and fighting corruption. The ongoing Governance and Economic Management Assistance Program (GEMAP) is being implemented with strong support from Liberia's development partners. Basic services are starting to be delivered as financial support to social sectors improves, and the United Nations Security Council recently lifted sanctions on Liberia's diamonds and timber.

Efforts to-date have served well in establishing security and supporting humanitarian interventions, although humanitarian assistance is still required in some areas. The challenges that remain are enormous. Major infrastructure rehabilitation is needed but has yet to take place, and economic recovery and livelihood opportunites are yet to be seriously tackled. The most rudimentary basic social services are not accessible to the majority of Liberians and poverty and food insecurity are pervasive.

Whilst there is much to celebrate, it must be recognized that Liberia is at a critical juncture. As national capacity increases, the resources available for recovery and development are waning. Continued support to the government and the people of Liberia is absolutely essential to ensure that the benefits of the gains made to date are built upon for a true consolidation of the peace – towards equitable and sustainable nationally-owned development.

Conflict Factors

To a large extent, Liberia's history of conflict defines the challenges faced by the government, partners and Liberia's citizens in the pursuit of reconstruction and development. Factors to consider in all interventions for recovery and development are articulated in the Common Country Assessment as follows:

1. **Poor leadership and the misuse of power:** The failure of previous national leaders to create broad-based, transparent and accountable systems of governance, and their reliance on a system of patronage, undermined social cohesion and sustained a mistrust and fear, particularly among ethnic communities.

2. **Weak justice systems:** The formal justice system in Liberia operates under huge constraints, including a lack of infrastructure, materials and an acute shortage of qualified personnel.

3. **Lack of shared vision:** Social and economic inequality between identity groups has been a persistent cause of conflict in Liberia, undermining the ability to build a shared national vision. Competition over resources has generated deep-rooted hostilities, aggravated by contradictory customary, statutory and historical claims to land ownership and ambiguous land tenure systems.

4. **Poverty and food insecurity:** Poverty and hunger are both drivers and consequences of conflict in Liberia, aggravated by the dramatic disruption to agricultural production during the war.

5. **Mismanagement of natural resources:** Mismanagement, misuse and illegal exploitation of natural resources have been at the heart of conflict in Liberia.

6. **Pressure on reintegration:** Demobilized former combatants, internally displaced people (IDPs) and refugees have returned, often bringing with them new skills, ideas and expectations. However, limited job opportunities, infrastructure and social services in their communities can lead to the exacerbation of tensions.

7. **The regional dimension:** Within the region, small arms availability, youth unemployment, large displaced populations and a pool of unemployed ex-combatants all represent distinct risks to peace. These exist alongside pervasive poverty and food insecurity, collapsed health and education systems, and the spread of HIV/AIDS. The sustainability of Liberia's progress depends, in part, upon the consolidation of peace and improvement of social and economic conditions throughout the region.

UNDAF Formulation Process

The United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF) is the common strategic framework for United Nations support at the country level. It provides a collective response to national priorities and needs of Liberia within the framework of the Millennium Declaration, corresponding to the timeframe of the full PRS.

Liberia's iPRS sets out the current framework for recovery and reconstruction. Moving beyond short-term emergency planning, the government is embarking on the formulation of a full MDG-based PRS covering 2008-2012. This is expected to be followed by a socio-economic transformation strategy (SETS) for 2012-2015, aimed at ensuring sustained growth and development.

In July 2006, the United Nations in Liberia completed the Common Country Assessment (CCA), which has informed much of the preparation of this UNDAF.

The development of this UNDAF has also drawn on the expertise and active participation of all United Nations entities in Liberia. Following a retreat with the government and partners, five working groups were established around agreed UNDAF outcomes. Government and civil society organizations were invited to participate in the groups, which also brought together United Nations agencies and the United Nations Mission in Liberia (UNMIL). A one-day workshop was later organized to deepen the work of the groups and ensure consistency.

Fig 1. The UNDAF in relation to national and other United Nations analysis, planning and programming processes in Liberia

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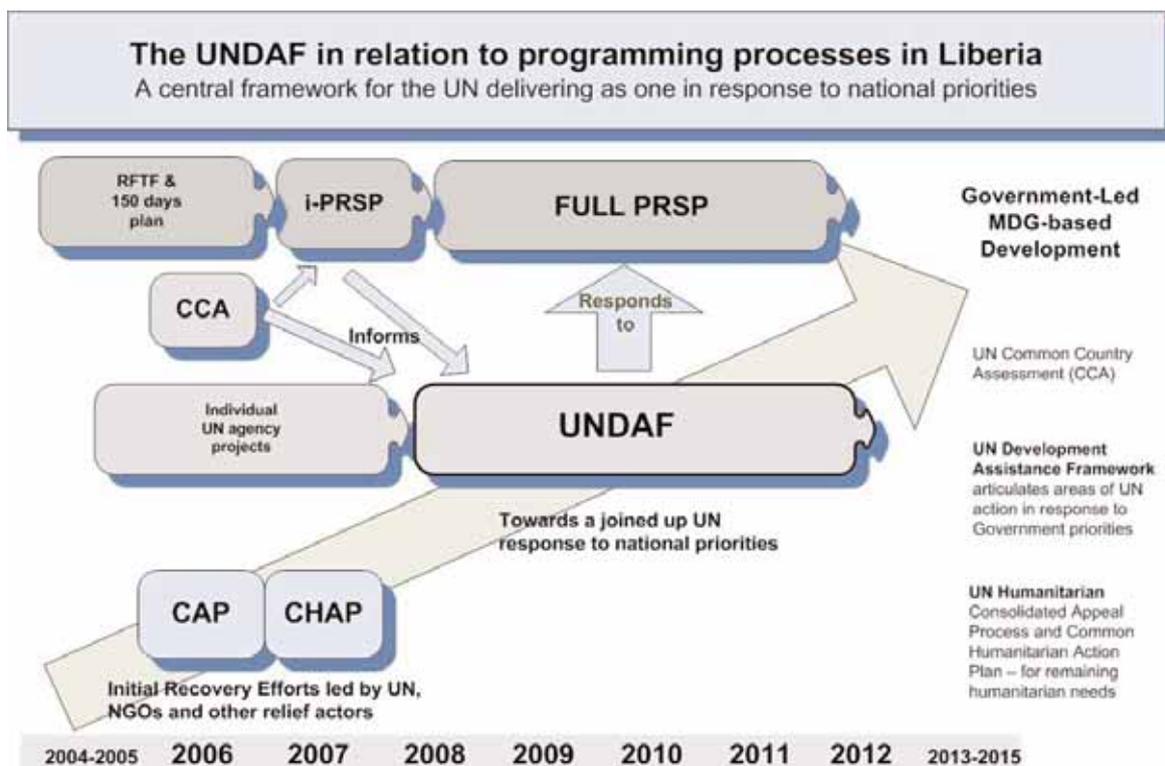
While the finalization of the iPRS has taken place in parallel with the UNDAF – a process from which it has benefited greatly – it must be recognized that the national priorities for Liberia's medium-term development agenda still have to be set by the government and people of Liberia.

Although largely informed by the CCA and the iPRS, production of this UNDAF had to be completed while the government had initiated local consultations on the PRS. This document thus represents the best that is known with regard to data, assessment, capacity and national priorities at the time of preparation. The government and the United Nations in Liberia agree that the UNDAF is a "living" document that will be revised to include changes arising from the finalization of the full PRS. It will be adapted to be responsive to the situation in Liberia over the coming years.

Regional Consultations kick starts Poverty Reduction Strategy process

Covering all of Liberia's 15 counties, three regional consultations were held to bring together county superintendents, district and township commissioners and government ministries. The Minister of Planning and Economic Affairs led the process along with the Minister of Internal Affairs to solicit ideas on potential PRS priorities from the counties and districts. United Nations agencies were invited to the consultations, to listen and to reflect emerging priorities in this UNDAF.

Using the MDGs as the overarching framework, the Minister for Planning and Economic Affairs underscored the need for local leaders to think long-term:

"We are now moving into longer-term planning based on the MDGs. Our objective is to think together to formulate county development agendas which will be integrated into the full national poverty reduction strategy – underpinned by respect for the rule of law and protection of human rights."

Superintendents and district commissioners were urged to be accountable to the people, ensuring ownership as a key ingredient in local level planning, target setting and monitoring.

Concluding these consultations, the United Nation's areas of strategic intervention in support of government were validated for the UNDAF. The consultations also served to deepen the partnership of the United Nations with the government and it was agreed to put in place a joint mechanism of monitoring and evaluation to ensure that the UNDAF remains fully aligned with national priorities.

Guiding Principles

As with the CCA and the iPRS, the UNDAF has been guided by a rights-based and conflict-sensitive approach requiring continuous examination of policies and programmes to ensure the promotion of peace and stability rather than exacerbating or reviving conflict.

Rights-based approach to development

Poverty reduction must be a process by which the human rights of 'freedom from fear' and 'freedom from want' are realized for all. Other human rights priorities include the right to education, health care, food and gender equality. The key links between human rights principles and this UNDAF are:

- *Equality* – citizens with equal rights and the removal of discrimination and reduction of disparities, especially with regard to ethnicity and gender;

- *Empowerment* – citizens empowered to contribute to the decision-making processes that affect their lives and development that is people-centred;

- *Accountability* – the state, private sector and international community respect, protect and fulfil the enjoyment of human rights;

- *Conflict prevention* – equitable and inclusive development as a human rights objective (for which the government is accountable to the people) and as a means of preventing and addressing the root causes of conflict;

- *Flexibility* – administrative capacity open to finding innovative ways of empowering citizens and strengthening institutional capacity to prevent human rights violations and abuses.

Conflict-sensitive development

Post-conflict countries frequently return to war, often as a consequence of inappropriate responses by new governments to post-conflict challenges. Liberia has taken an important step to avoid this path by ensuring its first iPRS is a conflict-sensitive development strategy that addresses the structural causes of conflict, while at the same time ensuring development contributes to peacebuilding.

Greater capacity-building efforts are needed at all levels of government to manage conflict as well as to ensure that policies and programmes contribute to peace. It is also recognized that in support of national capacity, the United Nations in Liberia will need to invest in some short-term building up of capacity in international institutions, in order to effectively support national efforts.

In contributing to sustaining peace, interventions must seek to empower and enhance individual and collective dignity and respect. This also means placing focus on individuals and groups that are socially excluded, marginalized, vulnerable and disadvantaged. United Nations programming will be guided by the principles of social and political inclusion and participation of all Liberians regardless of ethnicity, religion or socio-economic status.

II. RESULTS

National priorities

As outlined in the iPRS, the Government of Liberia has prioritized four key areas: enhancing national security; revitalizing the economy; strengthening governance and the rule of law; and rehabilitating infrastructure and delivering basic services. These form the essential elements for national MDG-based recovery and development.

The response of the United Nations is articulated as UNDAF outcomes in this document. Four of these outcomes are directly linked to the four national priorities. An additional outcome focuses on HIV/AIDS and has been selected and deemed important due to the potential consequences of the epidemic in Liberia.

UNDAF OUTCOME 1:
Peace and Security

National and local authorities increasingly have the capacity to provide security, manage conflict, and prevent violence, respecting human rights throughout.

MILLENNIUM DECLARATION: Peace, conflict and disarmament

The 2008-2012 period will be crucial in building a sustainable and lasting peace. Security is a central component to recovery and a prerequisite for all UNDAF outcomes – underpinning the environment for economic growth and development, good governance and the provision of basic social services. At the same time, security cannot be sustained and nationally owned without addressing sources of conflict, which are rooted in socio-economic and political factors.

In the iPRS, the government recognizes the need to establish an accountable security sector, including improved border management that functions based on human rights and democratic governance. This also requires informing the people of Liberia about the functions, responsibilities and accountabilities of the security sector.

Youth participation and empowerment is paramount. A central challenge is the need to consolidate the national reconciliation and reintegration process, in particular, overcoming historical marginalization and exploitation of youth.

As the United Nations in Liberia moves from peacekeeping to peacebuilding and consolidation, the UNDAF supports and deepens this transition. Efforts directed at building and entrenching capacities at the national and local level for conflict prevention, management and conflict-sensitive development are undertaken while promoting the human rights of every citizen. The key role and participation of women in peacebuilding efforts – in line with Security Council Resolution 1325 – is also essential.

UNDAF Outcome 2:
Equitable Socio-Economic Development

National economic policies and programmes are being implemented to support equitable, inclusive and sustainable socio-economic development.

MDG 1: Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger
MDG 3: Promote gender equality and empower women
MDG 7: Ensure environmental sustainability
MDG 8: Develop global partnership for development

A key national objective is to rapidly accelerate the pace of economic growth as the foundation for poverty reduction and sustained development. It is of utmost importance for the future of Liberia that growth takes place in the early years of recovery in an equitable and inclusive way, creating equal opportunities for all Liberians regardless of origin, ethnicity and gender or social/family background. The United Nations will support national capacities for pro-poor policy planning, analysis, budgeting/resource allocation and monitoring.

Outcome 2 reinforces the national priority of revitalizing the economy, focusing on managing natural resources, raising economic growth and creating jobs. With unemployment currently estimated at 80 per cent in the formal sector, job creation is a top priority. The promotion of employment-intensive investment policies and practices, local economic development and sustainable livelihood opportunities (especially for vulnerable groups), is needed. Young people, in particular, form a population group that requires comprehensive approaches to create jobs, improve their employability and empower them to become agents of change.

Gender inequality in Liberia represents a major obstacle to poverty reduction and is a key constraint in sustainable economic growth. Women's share of wage employment in sectors outside of agriculture is very low and women make up a significant percentage of small-scale market traders in the informal sector of the economy.

The iPRS emphasizes restoring productive capacity to state-owned enterprises as well as mining and forestry sectors and export-oriented agriculture. While this priority is important, there is a need to avoid reliance on these sectors, which could lead to the pre-war model of unequal, dualistic development where most people remained poor. Measures are needed to promote inclusive and pro-poor growth through small-scale agriculture, small and medium-scale industries and the protection of workers in the extractive and export sectors. Particular attention needs to be paid to corporate social responsibility and the enforcement of international labour standards that directly impact the rights of the poor. The promotion of peaceful industrial relations, and the prevention of social and labour conflicts, will encourage investors and strengthen governance.

Without accurate, up-to-date national data for development planning there is a serious impediment to moving into a solidified development phase. The United Nations is committed to supporting government efforts to conduct nationwide data-collection and analysis exercises including the 2008 National Population and Housing Census, which will provide a wide range of detailed, up-to-date, reliable and disaggregated demographic and socio-economic data, vital for generating key indicators for the formulation of national, sectoral and county development plans, strategies and programmes as well as monitoring progress towards the attainment of the MDGs.

The Comprehensive Food Security and Nutrition Survey (June 2006) indicates that 51 per cent of all Liberians in rural and semi-urban areas are food insecure or highly vulnerable to food insecurity. Sadly, more than 25 per cent of children under five years of age are underweight and 39 per cent are too short for their age – an indication of critical levels of chronic malnutrition.

Therefore, a key result necessary in achieving this UNDAF outcome is a dramatic boost to the food security, nutrition and poverty reduction efforts of the government. This is the only way to bring about a real improvement in the lives of the most vulnerable, taking into account sustainable natural resource management, environmental protection and gender equity.
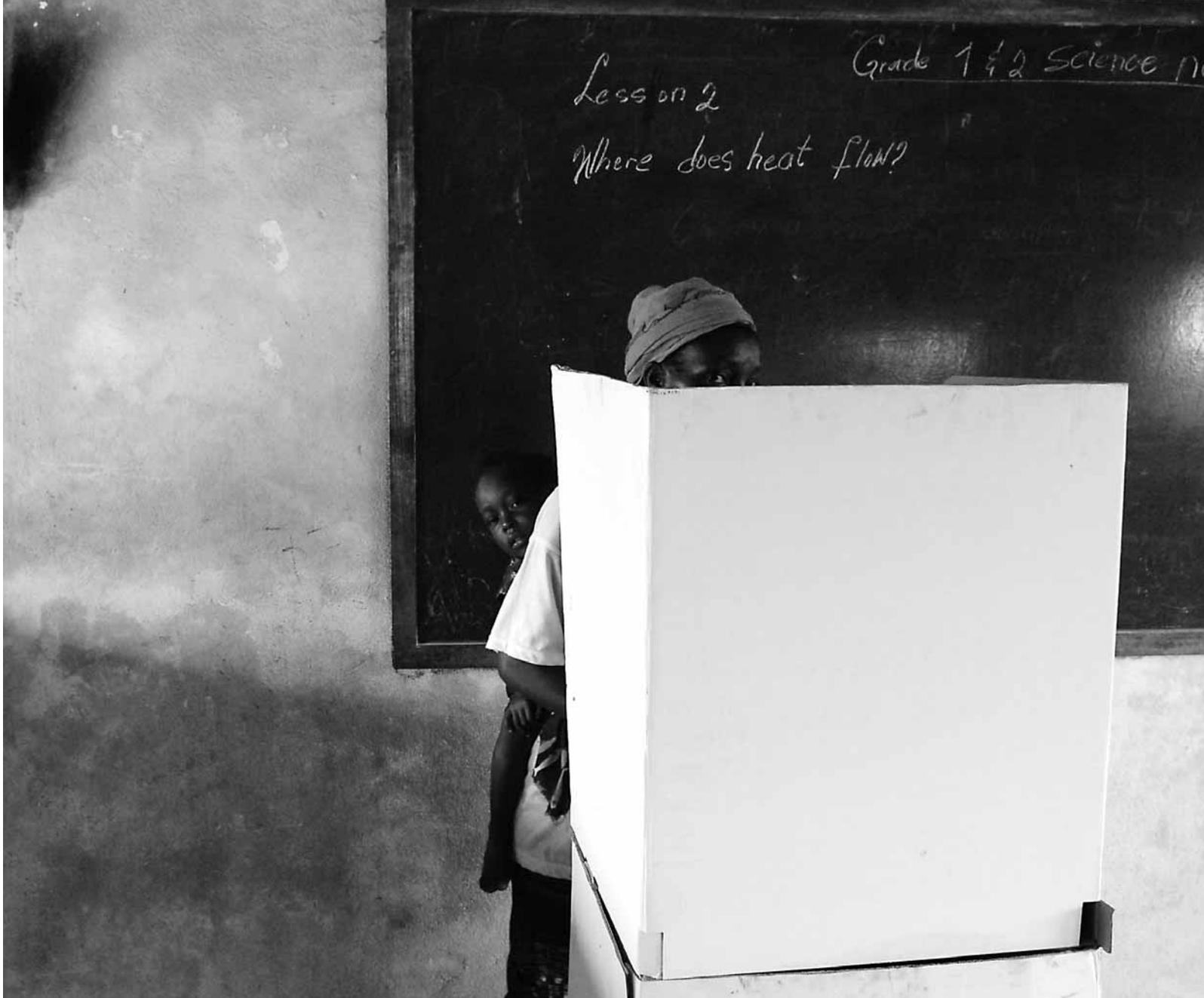
UNDAF Outcome 3:
Good Governance and the Rule of Law

Democratic, accountable and transparent governance is being advanced in a participatory and inclusive manner and in accordance with human rights standards.

MDG 3: Promote gender equality and empower women
MDG 7: Ensure environmental sustainability
Note: Interventions related to good governance impact on all MDGs, as stated in the Millennium Declaration

The iPRS states that persistent bad governance practices mean there is a need to change the mindset and value systems of Liberians on one hand and to restructure and strengthen central and local governance institutions, systems and processes on the other. Ultimately, security and development depend on good governance, respect for human rights and the rule of law.

Government structures and regulatory systems require aggressive reforms and strengthening in order to achieve greater transparency and accountability. There are still areas where domestic law, including the constitution, is inconsistent with international human rights obligations to which the government has agreed to abide. Policies and laws must be revised and enacted to promote human rights and sustain democratic governance.

Legal and institutional frameworks must also ensure inclusive participation in national governance and engagement with all segments of society. The United Nations will continue to support and use its extensive technical expertise, international experience and best practices to strengthen the electoral system to increase participation and accountability. Support to key governance institutions, including the civil service, the national legislature and the judiciary is a priority, as is strengthening civil society organizations to allow for greater participation for men and women in policy formulation and decision making at all levels.

Freedom of expression – including access to information and a free press – is a fundamental human right essential to promoting peace and preventing violent conflict. Broad based capacity-building of the Liberia media sector is needed to promote public debate, transparency and accountability among decision makers.

Further steps are needed to ensure a more representative voice for all citizens of Liberia. Of particular significance will be policies and strategies that are built upon effective decentralization and local development. Most of the infrastructure and basic social services of Liberia are located in Monrovia and other urban centers. This underscores the disparity in living standards and service delivery between urban and rural areas. Reaching the vast majority of the poor living outside Monrovia requires a focus on capacity development of local authorities and empowering communities and cooperatives. The United Nations in Liberia is committed to supporting the decentralization efforts of the government.

Even if economic growth will be pro-poor, it is well recognized that not all poor people are able to participate in the growth or access its benefits. This is particularly true for the most vulnerable, including the very young, the old, those with disabilities and those unable to work. While the intention is for all Liberians to be able to access basic social services, this is unlikely to happen unless social protection measures and safety nets are put in place.

UNDAF Outcome 4:
Education and Health

Improving health and education, with an emphasis on reduced maternal and child mortality and increased learning achievement.

MDG 2: Achieve universal primary education
MDG 3: Promote gender equality and empower women
MDG 4: Reduce infant mortality
MDG 5: Reduce maternal mortality
MDG 6: Combat HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases

Education

Emergency support to the education sector has focused primarily on improving access to educational opportunities (the net enrolment ratio (NER) in primary education was estimated at 50-60 per cent in 2001). The medium-term development agenda must ensure quality of education and actual learning outcomes. Children and youth have a right to attend school and a right to learn. Teacher qualifications and welfare, improved instructional supervision and strengthened national curricula are all important means of achieving quality education. The capacity of the Ministry of Education to take the lead in coordination, planning and implementation will be a key focus.

The United Nations is committed to supporting a holistic approach beyond primary schooling, focusing on quality of education, learning achievements, institutional capacity development and a functional monitoring and evaluation system. Given Liberia's general rate of illiteracy, estimated at an extraordinarily high 70 per cent, a national literacy campaign is urgently needed.

The iPRS also indicates that the tertiary education sector requires attention:

"The higher education system has remained paralyzed and the technical and vocational education and training system is still in disarray due to the looting of the training equipment during the war."

Disparities in education regarding gender, access and quality, and urban and rural differences are serious problems. The gender gap in education is improving in the early grades from a ratio of boys to girls in primary education of 0.73 in 2000. However, the gap increases at successive levels, especially at lower secondary. More girls than boys drop out of school; it is estimated that only one of three learners starting grade 1 reaches grade 5.

Advocacy and policy support is essential to institutionalize gender-sensitive life skills and population/family education, both in and out of school, with the aim of improving educational opportunities for girls and reducing drop-out rates due to teenage pregnancies. Ensuring schools provide safe learning spaces are also important to prevent gender-based violence. Special action is needed to make the transition from school to work for young people easier and, in addition, to facilitate work experience to those who have missed out on education because of the conflict.

Health

Years of conflict and looting have severely impacted the country's health situation. Life expectancy at birth is amongst the lowest in the world, estimated in 2004 to be 42 years for both genders, according to a World Health Organization report. The under-five mortality rate (ranked fifth-highest in the world) was estimated at 235 deaths per 1,000 live births for 2004, while the maternal mortality rate is estimated at 760 deaths per 100,000 live births. These statistics are stark indeed. Simply put, one in four Liberian children will die before reaching the age of five. Malaria remains a leading cause of child morbidity, accounting for about 42 per cent of cases, followed by diarrhoea (22 per cent), acute respiratory infections (12 per cent) and other illnesses.

The social consequences of the war, compounded by the vast damage on infrastructure and access to services, have translated into higher rates of maternal and neonatal deaths, unwanted teenage pregnancies and related disabilities such as obstetric fistula. Gender-based violence (including rape), substance abuse and increased violence have left most young

people with psychosocial trauma.

The health care system and health workforce are fragmented, uneven and heavily dependent on vertical programmes and international non-governmental organizations (NGOs). Out of 389 health facilities considered 'functional,' almost 300 are supported by NGOs.

With less than 10 per cent of Liberia's population having access to health care, revitalizing the health system is a major challenge facing the government. As a first step in addressing this challenge, the Ministry of Health and Social Welfare revised the national health policy and elaborated a five-year National Health Reform Plan. The United Nations has prioritized its efforts over the coming year to assist in the reduction of maternal and under-five mortality by 30 per cent.

Substantial investments will be required in reproductive health, with special attention to adolescent sexual and reproductive health and family planning. In addition, emergency obstetric care, neonatal and post-natal care, equipping health facilities and strengthening the referral network and systems are key. Investments in water and sanitation programmes will also be critical for improving health outcomes including reducing mortality and controlling communicable diseases.

UNDAF Outcome 5:
HIV/AIDS Prevention, Treatment and Care

An enabling environment in place and organizational capacities enhanced to improve access to HIV/AIDS prevention, treatment, care and support as well as addressing stigma and discrimination.

MDG 6: Combat HIV and AIDS, malaria and other diseases

The HIV/AIDS epidemic poses a major challenge to the socio-economic development aspirations of Liberia and will undermine post-war social and economic reconstruction and sustainable development efforts if left unaddressed.

Rampant sexual and gender-based violence, massive population movement, chronic deprivation, high levels of poverty and other social and economic factors are a catalyst for a potential explosion of HIV/AIDS in Liberia. The estimated prevalence rate is 5.7 per cent. Generally, young people aged 15-35 are worst hit by HIV/AIDS, and the disease affects women more than men.

The knowledge level of HIV/AIDS is very low among the entire population in Liberia. A lack of access to health care is a major challenge inhibiting the provision of treatment and care for people living with HIV/AIDS. This is also applicable to voluntary counseling and testing, safe blood and prevention of mother-to-child transmission. Poverty is another factor accelerating the high incidence of HIV/AIDS, as young boys and girls prostitute themselves to meet basic livelihood needs.

Cultural risk factors such as female genital mutilation and widowhood inheritance have also been identified as contributory factors fuelling the spread of HIV. Gender-based violence (GBV), which remains a major problem in Liberia, is also a key factor. A recent study by WHO on GBV indicated that about 90 per cent of the women interviewed for the study, regardless of age, religion or marital status, were subjected to one or multiple acts of sexual abuse during the war or subsequently; 75 per cent of those interviewed said they have been raped and violently abused by men.

The United Nations system has provided critical support to the Government of Liberia in accessing significant resources from the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria. The United Nations Development Programme, in close collaboration with its United Nations partners, will manage additional Global Fund resources in support of governmental efforts in the fight against HIV/AIDS, while increasing the capacity of the government to access and ultimately manage Global Fund and other donor resources.

There is an urgent need to improve access to HIV/AIDS prevention, treatment, care and support for those infected and/or affected, as well as to address widespread stigma and discrimination. Longer-term strategies will be needed to ensure that the fight against HIV/AIDS is multi-sectoral and improves institutional capacities in all government agencies. Despite existing support, the United Nations is concerned with the response to the spread of HIV/AIDS and lack of attention to potential consequences in Liberia. The fight against HIV/AIDS is both a strategic and most timely priority for the people of Liberia.

III. CROSS-CUTTING ISSUES

Progress towards UNDAF outcomes will depend on the capacity to simultaneously address a number of fundamental cross-cutting issues that impact the lives of every Liberian woman, man and child. Only with an integrated approach can the United Nations provide effective support on these cross-cutting issues; making progress across all sectors means the United Nations will work together through joint programmes in these areas.

Youth

The national youth policy (introduced in 2005) defined young people as 15 to 35 years old. This definition means that 55-60 per cent of the estimated Liberian population of 3.5 million (Demographic Household Survey, 1998) is considered youth. In fact, the vast majority of Liberians affected by the war were young people, as many were uprooted, internally displaced, refugees or combatants.

Greater attention needs to be directed towards the needs, rights and employment possibilities of adolescents and young people. Collectively, they are at high risk of cyclical poverty and should be the focus of increasing human capacity potential through formal and informal education and entry into the labour force. Equally, their age coincides with the commencement of sexual activity and reproduction and a high percentage of new HIV infections occur among people between the ages of 15 and 25.

A national youth policy has been adopted by the government – a holistic approach to addressing issues affecting youth in Liberia. However, this approach will need to be backed by legal and institutional frameworks that commit the government to policy creation and budgetary allocation in order to make a difference for young people in areas

such as education, economic governance and reproductive health.

Reducing poverty in Liberia will depend greatly on the inclusion of youth in economic and political realms, with comprehensive programmes for employment and youth empowerment. This will enhance national security and economic viability and provide a foundation for training youth for future development. Young people must be drivers of their own development and participate fully in decisions that affect their lives.

Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment

Empowering women is central to development initiatives that respond to the needs, rights, aspirations and talents of all Liberians. In line with equal rights and freedoms for all, women and men need to have the same opportunities and decision-making power regarding national issues, household economy and their own bodies.

The war exacerbated gender inequality in Liberia; a vast majority of women and girls suffered various types of violence including sexual abuse and gender-based violence, forced sex in exchange for food and survival, forced and early marriage or unwanted pregnancies due to rape. In 2006, rape remained the most frequently reported crime in Liberia, and trafficking in persons is a growing concern. Active engagement of communities and their leaders, the media, youth and women's networks is essential in the prevention of and fight against gender-based violence. Empowering women will enable them to successfully partake in livelihoods and promote broader economic revitalization, including in the informal sector where women play a predominant role.

Mainstreaming gender issues into national policies and frameworks, while promoting equality in terms of socio-economic opportunities, promises to enhance inclusiveness and solidarity among a war-affected population. The pursuit of a strong gender policy in Liberia will ensure more effective use of human capacity, accelerate economic and social development and sustain long-term poverty reduction.

The mandate of the Ministry of Gender and Development (MoGD) includes ensuring effective leadership of mainstreaming gender perspectives in the national development process through the following mechanisms, among others:

- The development and implementation of the National Gender Policy;

- Strengthening domestication, implementation and reporting on women's human rights instruments – e.g. the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, UN Security Council Resolution 1325, Beijing Platform for Action, African Protocol on Women's Rights;

- Overall gender sensitization and public awareness on gender issues;

- Capacity development in gender planning, monitoring and evaluation for MoGD, line ministries and local governments;

- Design and implementation of women-specific empowerment projects, including economic empowerment;

- Support to strengthening of women's civil society organizations.

Environment and Sustainable Development

Ensuring environmental sustainability in line with MDGs will require integrating the principles of sustainable development into a wide range of national policies and programmes. More specifically, the cross-cutting theme of environment and sustainable development directly relates to all four areas prioritized by the government. Liberia's rich natural resources, particularly timber and minerals, played a significant role in the conflicts of the region and also form the basis for its future development. Moving forward, sustainable use and development of Liberia's natural resources will contribute to enhanced national peace and security.

Similarly, sustainable natural resources management is essential to revitalizing economic growth. However, economic growth must not compromise the environmental quality and living conditions of Liberians. Establishing a strong environmental governance system and an effective institutional and legal framework for natural resources and environmental management is needed to promote sustainable development, achievable through strengthening governance and the rule of law. This includes ratification of all relevant international environmental conventions and protocols and re-engaging with neighbouring countries and the international community.

Finally, public investment in infrastructure rehabilitation and basic services must take environmental impacts into consideration. Capacity will need to be developed to strengthen environmental impact assessment processes and requirements.

Capacity Development

The overall goal is to support national counterparts to develop capacities to own, lead, manage, achieve and account for national development priorities, especially those related to the MDGs and internationally agreed development goals, as well as human rights obligations in ratified United Nations conventions and treaties.

Capacity development is a central concern for this UNDAF and essential for sustainability. Supporting national capacity-building in planning, prioritizing, implementing and accounting for recovery and development efforts is an imperative the United Nations has adopted as a fundamental operating principle in Liberia. The role of the United Nations is to support the government and civil society of Liberia to develop necessary capacities to manage its development and to own its future.

Much of the effort to align the strategy of the United Nations with that of the Government of Liberia is to shore up major gaps through capacity-building. The United Nations is striving to support the government to turn its commitments into reality by establishing effective institutions and systems, identifying the capacity gaps and providing needed technical support in the process of establishing a functioning public service to benefit all Liberians. This includes building the capacity of local administration to assess, plan, coordinate, mobilize resources for and deliver essential services in support of consolidation of state authority and recovery.

For each UNDAF outcome, capacity needs will be assessed and the response designed to support the closing of gaps while supporting the achievement of sustainable capacity outcomes. Specific interventions will need to be elaborated upon in the respective United Nations agency programme frameworks.

The 2006 Liberia Human Development Report outlined the following seven-point agenda for capacity development in Liberia:

1. Rebuilding government capacity;
2. Transitional salary supplements for key officials;
3. National capacity development programme;
4. Promoting donor coordination on capacity-building, led by the government;
5. Establishing an independent 'think tank' to undertake rigorous studies of the macroeconomic policy framework of Liberia, including fiscal and monetary issues;
6. A baseline capacity assessment, together with a set of basic indicators that would record and measure changes as a national capacity development programme is implemented;
7. Building and maintaining reliable databases.

The Liberia iPRS recognizes the importance of capacity development and, to feed into the capacity development strategy and the PRS, a capacity assessment will be conducted in 2007. The UNDAF and United Nations Agency programmes will take these results into account.

Of the globally-identified comparative advantages for the United Nations in undertaking capacity development initiatives, the following are directly included in Liberia's five UNDAF outcomes:

• Develop capacities to review and analyze policy options that benefit the poor;
• Strengthen capacities for coordination of development and humanitarian assistance;
• Facilitate consensus-building processes and broker relations between key development stakeholders;
• Strengthen capacities to implement and monitor international human rights obligations;
• Support the development and use of information and results-based management systems for greater accountability;
• Provide international good practice in all the above and promote knowledge networking capacities.

Cross-Cutting Issues and UNDAF Outcomes

The following table provides examples of how the cross-cutting issues effect and interlink with the UNDAF outcomes.

	Outcome 1 Peace and Security	Outcome 2 Socio-Economic Development	Outcome 3 Governance and Rule of Law	Outcome 4 Education and Health	Outcome 5 HIV/AIDS Response
Youth	Focus on youth empowerment in the national reconciliation and reintegration process	Increase access to vocational training, business skills development and micro-credit schemes for young people Design labour-intensive programmes targeting youth	Increase participation of young people in society through implementation of the national youth policy and enactment of a legal framework	Ensure access to quality education for all Increase enrolment and completion rate Increase access to sexual and reproductive health services	Increase access to youth-friendly services for prevention and treatment Empower youth to avoid risky behaviour through HIV/AIDS education, adolescent and workplace programmes
Gender	Ensure national security policy and architecture is functioning in conformity with Liberia's human rights obligations, with particular attention to violence against women Develop mechanisms to prevent violence against women	Ensure monitoring systems provide gender-disaggregated data Increase agricultural production, with focus on small-hold agriculture and women	Advance gender equality, and the rights of women and girls, through mechanisms such as National Gender Policy Respond robustly to gender-based violence (GBV) and human trafficking (GBV Plan of Action)	Enhance girls' school enrolment and improve literacy rates for girls and women Reduce maternal and child mortality Advocate for sexual and reproductive rights of women	Increase access to gender-sensitive HIV/AIDS services, including prevention of mother to child transmission, with emphasis on women-controlled services
Environment	Develop national capacity to control and effectively manage natural resources (e.g. diamonds, timber)	Establish natural resources and environmental management system to protect natural heritage and ensure alternative livelihood opportunities for communities in resource rich areas	Ensure transparency in the granting and administration of concession agreements	Consider environmental impact for public investment in infrastructure rehabilitation and basic services	

	Outcome 1 Peace and Security	Outcome 2 Socio-Economic Development	Outcome 3 Governance and Rule of Law	Outcome 4 Education and Health	Outcome 5 HIV/AIDS Response
Human Rights	Support an accountable security sector with people aware of its functions and responsibilities Train security personnel in human rights standards and develop mechanisms to hold them accountable	Mainstream human rights standards into local and national development planning processes Reform labor laws in accordance with human rights standards and ILO conventions	Strengthen the rule of law, upholding international human rights standards Put a National Human Rights Action Plan in place Ensure key international conventions and protocol instruments are ratified, domesticated, monitored and reported upon	Remove discrimination and reduce disparities in education, especially with regard to ethnicity and gender Ensure equal access for all to health and education	Eliminate discrimination against those infected with and affected by HIV and AIDS Enforce the right to treatment, care and support services
Conflict Sensitivity	Build capacity of national and local officials in conflict management, conflict prevention and conflict-sensitive development Support conflict-sensitive reintegration programmes	Strengthen national mechanisms and capacities for MDG-based, conflict-sensitive planning, analysis and monitoring Increase access to productive employment and equal opportunities for sustainable livelihoods	Support broad-based, transparent and accountable systems of governance and the rule of law Support processes to reconcile contradictory customary, statutory and historical claims to land ownership	Include fostering a national identity, as well as peace, human rights and citizenship issues in education	Educate leaders to address HIV/AIDS issues according to internationally-acceptable standards
Capacity Development	Develop capacities of national and local authorities to provide security, manage conflict, and prevent violence, respecting human rights throughout	Support increased capacity to review and analyze pro-poor policy options Establish capacity for economic governance – transparent financial management, procurement practices and granting of concessions	Ensure county and district level administrations are better able to plan and implement local development in an equitable manner Ensure capacity for gender planning, monitoring and evaluation in MoGD, line ministries, local governments and civil society	Improve quality of teaching workforce and upgrade the planning, programming and monitoring skills and capacities officers of Ministry of Education Increase number of skilled health workers	Ensure an enabling environment – such as laws, frameworks and budgeting – for an effective national response to HIV/AIDS

IV. RESOURCE MOBILIZATION

As Liberia shifts from a humanitarian focus towards recovery and development there is a significant funding gap. The substantial humanitarian assistance (90 per cent of basic heath care services are provided by international organizations) will be phased out in the coming years and there is serious concern that as some partners pull out, or begin to allocate priorities elsewhere, and until the government has the capacity to fill the breach, a number of areas are at risk of neglect and may result in a regression in the level and quality of services. Although new partners and programmes are moving in, it is still difficult to predict the level of development assistance expected in Liberia.

Based on preliminary calculations, the United Nations estimates that the resources available for support to the five UNDAF outcomes will be approximately 230 million US dollars (not including resource requirements of the World Bank or UNMIL). This figure is indicative and likely to change in light of the evolving situation.

The targets for resource mobilization are distributed over the UNDAF outcomes as follows:

UNDAF Outcomes	Resources Required (in millions of US dollars)
Peace and Security	15.1
Equitable Socio-Economic Development	72
Good Governance and Rule of Law	27.4
i) Education ii) Health and Water/Sanitation	i) 62.6 (including $38 for school feeding, 2008-Jun 2009) ii) 45.3 (including $2.5 for feeding programmes, 2008-Jun 2009)
HIV/AIDS Prevention, Treatment and Care	8.2 (including $2.9 in food assistance 2008-Jun 2009)

V. COORDINATION AND IMPLEMENTATION: DELIVERING AS ONE UNITED NATIONS

The Liberia iPRS highlights the need for government, development partners and NGOs to better coordinate interventions and actions with the government's coordination framework, namely the Liberia Reconstruction and Development Committee (LRDC).

Seizing on the opportunity to advance reform, the United Nations stands ready to work in a more coordinated and harmonized manner with the Government of Liberia and its partners. The complexity of implementing the UNDAF requires close collaboration between the entire United Nations family, government, donors, civil society and other stakeholders. Specific coordination mechanisms include the Rule of Law Working Group, the Liberia Employment Action Programme (LEAP) steering committee, the National AIDS Council and other national structures. As a guiding principle, the United Nations will focus its efforts on increasing capacity of national coordination mechanisms to build capacity rather than deplete it.

Coordination of the United Nations Agencies roles and deliverables for each UNDAF outcome will take place within working groups responding to the national coordination mechanisms. Under the responsibility of the United Nations Country Team, the Inter-Agency Programming Team (IAPT) will use data and information from the counties in regular consultation with the LRDC for the identification of gaps and potential overlaps in the field and to ensure the best use of available resources.

The United Nations will continue to harmonize procedures and operational arrangements through common services such as shared travel, banking, security, procurement, information technology support, recruitment and joint training. The United Nations will also combine its human resources under joint sections in areas such as policy advice, communication and public information, and monitoring and evaluation.

Capacity-building on contingency planning and emergency preparedness will be increased to ensure sustainability of results achieved. This relates not least to the preparedness for managing an outbreak of Human and Avian Influenza.

Joint Programmes

Implementation will be increasingly facilitated in Liberia, where appropriate, through joint programmes where United Nations agencies work closely in preparation, implementation and evaluation. That includes undertaking joint needs-assessments, joint planning, joint implementation, joint monitoring and evaluation, collaborative decision-making and a streamlined dialogue with partners. Initially, joint programmes will be implemented in the following areas:

County Support Teams

The United Nations in Liberia is committed to supporting the government's decentralization efforts. It has therefore established County Support Teams (CSTs) in each county, aimed at ensuring a coherent and consolidated United Nations approach to addressing county challenges, supporting government, in particular the superintendent's office, and building capacity of government institutions so that they can increasingly take over responsibility for security, reconstruction and development.

To support this process, a joint programme of CSTs builds the capacity of local administrations in assessing, planning, coordinating, raising resources for and delivering essential services, in support of the consolidation of civil authority and recovery.

The joint programme is also a means for strengthening the United Nations development arm in the counties, ensuring that a United Nations presence is sustained in the counties as humanitarian agencies and UNMIL draw down. The CST is a key mechanism for implementing UNDAF in the counties, ensuring that the United Nations responds in an innovative and joint fashion to the county challenges.

HIV/AIDS

The United Nations in Liberia has agreed to direct its HIV/AIDS support through one joint programme. This approach is guided by an urgency to ensure the government is supported adequately in achieving objectives for reducing the spread of HIV/AIDS and to provide care, treatment and support for those infected and affected. The overarching objective of the joint programme is to assist the government in achieving the 'Three Ones'[1].

Food Security

Poverty and hunger are drivers and consequences of conflict. Achieving food security would allow Liberia to reach the first MDG while contributing significantly to the achievement of the reduction of child mortality and the improvement of maternal health. Food insecurity in Liberia can largely be attributed to three key factors – lack of food availability, difficulty with accessing food and the way in which available food is used. A joint United Nations programme would dramatically boost government efforts at achieving food security, nutrition and

poverty reduction and bring about a real improvement in the lives of the most vulnerable and all Liberians.

Youth Empowerment and Employment

Young Liberians play a crucial role in making the transition from war to peace. Creating an enabling environment for youth is therefore at the core of the recovery challenges. Many United Nations actors work with youth as a target group, justifying a joint programme that would bring interventions together under a comprehensive approach, with improvement of access to youth employment a priority area.

Gender Equality and Gender-Based Violence

A joint programme will derive from the national GBV multisectoral plan of action and build on existing interventions in a more complementary and comprehensive manner to ensure judicious use of resources and eliminate duplication. Key actors are members of the GBV Task Force, including government, NGOs, community-based organizations and United Nations agencies. All stakeholders will work together, aiming to minimize the high rate of sexual- and gender-based violence in communities and also to give quality care to survivors using a multi-sectoral, inter-agency approach.

Peacebuilding and Conflict-Sensitive Development

An integrated programme for peacebuilding will also be developed and funds sought. The United Nations intends to work with

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[1] The 'Three Ones' principle refers to One agreed HIV and AIDS Framework; One National HIV and AIDS Coordinating Authority; and one Monitoring and Evaluation Framework.

government and civil society to drive efforts to better integrate peacebuilding within the PRS and projects developed under the UNDAF. Moreover, the United Nations will play a role in supporting government policies and programming, ensuring they progressively contribute to sustained peace and address the root causes of conflict in Liberia.

In committing itself to conflict-sensitive programming, implementation of programmes will need to be undertaken with attention to Liberia's conflict context. Conflict-sensitive implementation involves particular kinds of management, monitoring, and adjustment. Management with attention to conflict-sensitivity involves the ability to see the bigger picture: how all the elements of the intervention, its operational context and the interaction between the two fit together. Monitoring in a conflict-sensitive manner requires gathering, reviewing and analyzing information in order to measure progress and change with attention to the conflict factors. Adjustments to the project plan, (involving who, what, where and when questions) or fundamental changes to the project's approach, may need to be taken[2].

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[2] Fewer, International Alert, Saferworld, 2004, *Conflict Sensitivity Resource Pack*, www.conflictsensitivity.org. Also a good source for conflict-sensitive programme design and implementation.

VI. MONITORING AND EVALUATION

Reliable data and official statistics are necessary for planning and monitoring progress and promoting accountability and transparency in decision-making. However, as recognized in the iPRS, there is a serious lack of such data and information in Liberia today. The material, technical and institutional capacities of the Liberia Institute for Statistics and Geo-information Services (LISGIS), the purveyor of official statistics, as well as that of the relevant departments in the line ministries, should be strengthened to improve data collection in health, education and other key social and economic sectors.

Tracking how well Liberia is responding to the MDGs will require considerable improvements with regard to data collection and management, especially with decentralized, county-level information management. Ensuring capacity for conflict analysis will also require the development of conflict indicators to serve monitoring and evaluation purposes.

The monitoring and evaluation framework includes a set of indicators and targets that were selected for monitoring progress towards the various UNDAF and country programme outcomes. All indicators need to be disaggregated where relevant by sex, age, county and rural/urban areas.

Main sources of verification will be Devinfo, the consolidated assessment and action report (CAAR), national databases, other official statistics from LISGIS and the donor assistance database. In addition, County Information Packs (CIPs) are prepared for each county, consolidating existing data to provide an overview of the county status in the four iPRS areas, including security, economy, basic social services and infrastructure, as well as governance and rule of law.

LISGIS is currently conducting the 2006/2007 Liberia Demographic and Health Survey and results will provide key population data. LISGIS is also conducting the 2008 National Population and Housing Census, which will provide an updated sampling frame to be used for future surveys and become a major source of demographic and socio-economic data and essential information, including benchmark figures disaggregated by gender and age at national and county level.

As results from several survey studies become available during 2007 and 2008, the indicators and baseline information for the UNDAF monitoring and evaluation framework will be revised and updated. Additionally, complementary studies will be initiated, which is the case with the suggested comprehensive and independent evaluation of the Accelerated Learning Programme (ALP) by the end of 2008. This would be a useful resource in assessing the results of a major programme delivered by a range of actors.

Each UNDAF working group will be responsible for preparing an annual progress report of the status on change towards the planned result. These will be consolidated in the Resident Coordinator's annual report. Yearly reviews of achievement, but also of the relevance of outcomes and outputs, will be based on progress reports and consultations with government and other stakeholders. To the extent possible, these will be aligned with national review mechanisms. A midterm UNDAF review will be undertaken by an independent evaluator, in collaboration with the United Nations, government, civil society and other partners. Also, in the final year of the implementation of the UNDAF, a terminal evaluation will be implemented.

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Annex I. UNDAF Results Matrix

National Priority: Enhancing National Security
Maintain and consolidate peace and facilitate the national healing process

Millennium Declaration: Peace, conflict and disarmament

UNDAF Outcome 1: National and local authorities increasingly have the capacity to provide security, manage conflict and prevent violence, respecting human rights throughout

Country Programme Outcomes	Country Programme Outputs
1.1 Accountable security sector established and functioning IOM, UNDP, UNMIL **Key Partners** MIA, MoD, MoJ, LNP, AFL, NSA, GRC, BIN, LINCSA, LANSA, Regional and international organizations, donors, CSOs, media	1.1.1 National security authorities have assumed responsibilities from UNMIL with functional civilian oversight mechanisms 1.1.2 Security personnel aware of and held accountable for human rights standards, and operational accountability mechanisms in place 1.1.3 Population aware of functions and responsibilities of various agencies within the security sector and avenues for accountability and to seek redress 1.1.4 National security policy and architecture in place and functioning in conformity with Liberia's human rights obligations, with particular attention to violence against women 1.1.5 Policies regulating the use of firearms are in place and being implemented
1.2 National reconciliation and reintegration processes consolidated, with focus on youth empowerment FAO, ILO, UNDP, UNESCO, UNFPA, UNHCR, UNICEF, UNMIL **Key Partners** NCDRR, TRC, DDCs, MoL, MIA, MPEA, MoGD, MoE, MoC, MPW, GRC, IPCC, private sector, CSOs	1.2.1 National institutions have capacity to manage reintegration and reconciliation, with mechanisms in place to further these aims 1.2.2 Reintegration policies and programmes implemented in a conflict-sensitive manner, respecting human rights with special attention to women and youth, and including social dialogue 1.2.3 Process of developing and promoting a shared national identity is advanced; based on inclusion, respect for diversity and promoting a culture of peace, especially relating to violence against women. 1.2.4 Peace, human rights and citizenship education curriculum standardized and implemented in schools nationwide.

Country Programme Outcomes	Country Programme Outputs
1.3 Government and civil society have capacity for conflict prevention, management and conflict-sensitive development at national and local levels UNDP, UNESCO, UNHCR, UNMIL **Key Partners** MIA, LIPA, Kofi Annan Institute, GRC, DDCs, regional and international organizations, CSOs	1.3.1 Early warning and response mechanism established and functional for detection of potential conflicts and response 1.3.2 Civil society has increased capacity for conflict prevention and management 1.3.3 Conflict management structures and systems in place at national and county levels, drawing on and supporting the use of traditional mechanisms 1.3.4 Conflict-sensitive development capacity that upholds human rights exists at county and national levels

Coordination mechanisms and programme modalities

United Nations support will be aligned with national priorities through overall coordination in the Liberian Reconstruction and Development Committee (LRDC). United Nations will coordinate its support in close consultation with partners, including the European Union, USAID, DfID, King's College, ECOWAS, MRU and others. The UNCT will increase its capacity in conflict-sensitive programme development and an integrated programme for peacebuilding will also be developed and funds sought.

National Priority: Revitalizing the Economy
Promote efficient and transparent management of national resources, improve the investment climate and accelerate growth and the creation of sustainable employment

MDG 1: Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger
MDG 3: Promote gender equality and empower women
MDG 7: Ensure environmental sustainability
MDG 8: Develop Global Partnership for Development

UNDAF Outcome 2: National economic policies and programmes are being implemented to support equitable, inclusive and sustainable socio-economic development

Country Programme Outcomes	Country Programme Outputs
2.1 National mechanisms and capacities for MDG-based, conflict-sensitive planning, analysis and monitoring strengthened FAO, ILO, UNDP, UNEP, UNFPA, UNICEF, UNIFEM, UNMIL, WFP, WB **Key Partners** MPEA, MIA, MLME, MoA, MoF, MoL, LISGIS, BoB, trade unions and employers' associations, EPA, FDA, bilateral and international organizations, CSOs	2.1.1 LISGIS and relevant national entities are better able to generate and manage national disaggregated statistics and information management systems, with the National Population and Housing Census conducted by 2008 providing key indicators and data, for policy planning and monitoring of the MDGs 2.1.2 Aid coordination and development management system in place, with the people of Liberia and authorities engaged to the maximum extent at all levels 2.1.3 MDGs and human rights standards mainstreamed into local and national development planning processes and human development approach adopted as the overarching and long-term planning framework 2.1.4 National and local authorities better able to participatorily plan, implement, monitor and evaluate the PRS 2.1.5 Government capacity for economic governance established to adhere to internationally acceptable standards of transparent financial management, procurement practices and granting of concessions

Country Programme Outcomes	Country Programme Outputs
2.2 Increased access to productive employment and equal opportunities for sustainable livelihoods, especially for vulnerable groups and in consideration of conflict factors FAO, ILO, IOM, UNDP, UNESCO, UNFPA, UNHCR, UNIFEM, UNMIL, WFP, WB **Key Partners** MoC, NIC, MPEA, MoGD, MoF, MoA, MoE, MoL, MPW, MIA, LEEP/LEAP, MLME EPA, INCHR, legislature, trade unions and employers' associations, CSOs/NGOs	2.2.1 Women and youth have access to vocational training, business skills development and micro-credit schemes 2.2.2 Socially responsible business enterprises promoted, recognized and active, and conducive conditions for private sector development, especially small- and medium-scale enterprises, and tripartite mechanism for coordination institutionalized (government, employers and workers organizations), in place and functioning 2.2.3 Labour laws reformed in accordance with human rights standards and ILO conventions, with employment and child labour policies formulated and implemented 2.2.4 Labour-intensive programmes in infrastructure and other sectors designed and implemented in a conflict-sensitive manner (i.e. targeting youth and considering food support for local initiatives)
2.3 Household food security improved, accounting for sustainable natural resources management, environmental protection and gender concerns FAO, ILO, UNEP, UNICEF, WFP, WHO **Key Partners** MoA, MoH&SW, MoE, MoGD, MLME, EPA, Central Agriculture Research Institute (CARI), FDA, NGOs	2.3.1 National food security and nutrition policy and monitoring system established and functional 2.3.2 Agricultural production increased and diversified with the benefit of extension services that focus on small-hold agriculture and women 2.3.3 Effective food storage, processing and marketing system in place 2.3.4 Comprehensive natural resources and environmental management system established and effective to protect Liberia's natural heritage and to ensure alternative livelihood opportunities for communities in resource rich areas

Coordination mechanisms and programme modalities

United Nations support will be aligned with national priorities through overall coordination in the LRDC. A United Nations theme group will serve as the primary coordination mechanism for implementing and monitoring this UNDAF outcome; it will prepare a coordinated inter-agency work plan for collaborative activities and joint programmes, in consultation with partners, including the LEAP steering committee and the child protection committee. The UNCT will seek other partnerships with donors such as USAID, European Union and DfID, for exchange of information and support to relevant programmes. Cross-cutting themes such as youth employment will be incorporated and mainstreamed.

National Priority: Strengthening Governance and the Rule of Law
Facilitating effective institutions that will support democratic governance, justice and human security

MDG 3: Promote gender equality and empower women
MDG 7: Ensure environmental sustainability

Note: Interventions related to good governance impact on all MDGs as stated in the Millennium Declaration

UNDAF Outcome 3: Democratic, accountable and transparent governance is being advanced in a participatory and inclusive manner and in accordance with human rights standards

Country Programme Outcomes	Country Programme Outputs
3.1 Governance systems reformed to promote and sustain democratic principles with strengthened decentralized capacity and participation of disadvantaged groups ILO, UNDP, UNDEF, UNESCO, UNICEF, UNIFEM, WB, UNMIL **Key Partners** MPEA, MIA, MoF, MoG&D, NEC, CSA, GRC, GEMAP, bilateral and international development organizations, PUL, NGOs, media	3.1.1 County and district level administrations are better able to draw upon resources to plan and implement local development in a participatory, equitable manner 3.1.2 New civil service established with redefined roles promoting equity, accountability, transparency and probity at all levels 3.1.3 CSOs and media better able to contribute to gender-sensitive MDG-based development and the upholding of human rights 3.1.4 The National Elections Commission (NEC) has improved institutional and administrative capacity to conduct free, fair and transparent elections with mechanisms in place to ensure professionalism and institutional independence 3.1.5 National anti-corruption strategy in place and a legal and institutional framework functional with the public aware of government responsibility and accountability – especially in relation to granting of concession agreements 3.1.6 Mechanisms to resolve land disputes developed

Country Programme Outcomes	Country Programme Outputs
3.2 The rule of law strengthened, upholding international human rights standards UNDP, UNICEF, UNMIL **Key Partners** MoJ, MoGD, legislature, GRC, GEMAP, INHRC, bilateral and international development organizations, NGOs, CBOs, media	3.2.1 The national legislature better able to perform law-making, oversight and representative functions with enhanced internal procedures and independent of the executive and judiciary 3.2.2 Justice systems, including traditional and formal justice, reformed and reconciled to ensure delivery of effective, independent, impartial justice to all, in accordance with international and national laws 3.2.3 Human resource capacity of the judiciary enhanced 3.2.4 Conditions in correction facilities improved
3.3 National and local mechanisms enhanced to uphold human rights, promote political, religious and ethnic tolerance and provide social protection ILO, IOM, UNDP, UNESCO, UNFPA, UNHCR, UNICEF, UNIFEM, UNMIL, WFP, WHO MIA, MPEA, MYS, MoJ, MoG&D, MoH&SW, CSA, GRC, National Anti Human Trafficking Task Force, INHRC, legislature, NGOs, CBOs	3.3.1 National Human Rights Action Plan in place by 2009 and implementation commenced and key international conventions and protocol instruments ratified, domesticated, monitored and reported upon 3.3.2 National social protection framework and implementation mechanisms in place and informed by a vulnerability assessment 3.3.3 Vulnerable children, youth and adults, including those with disabilities, have increased access to social protection services 3.3.4 Gender equality advanced, and the rights of women and girls promoted and protected, including a robust response to gender-based violence and human trafficking, through development and implementation of mechanisms such as the National Gender Policy and GBV Plan of Action 3.3.5 Young peoples' rights and interests better catered to with increased participation in society through the implementation of the national youth policy and enactment of a legal framework

Coordination mechanisms and programme modalities

United Nations support will be aligned with national priorities through overall coordination in the LRDC and the Rule of Law Working Group. A United Nations theme group on Governance and Rule of Law and the Gender theme group will serve as the primary coordination mechanism for implementing and monitoring this UNDAF outcome and gender mainstreaming. It will prepare a coordinated inter-agency work plan for collaborative activities, including joint programmes. The UNCT will seek partnerships with donors such as USAID, European Union and DfID for exchange of information and support to relevant programmes. Annual work plan reviews and joint field assessments will be conducted. Capacity-building has been identified as a cross-cutting issue – this will be achieved through mainstreaming of capacity development in legislation, policies and programmes being undertaken in each of the country programme outcomes. Similarly, in order to ensure effective gender mainstreaming, UNIFEM/UNMIL Office of the Gender Advisor will provide support through education and training. The County Support Teams (CST) will be a key mechanism for implementation of the UNDAF at county level.

National Priority: Rehabilitating Infrastructure and Delivering Basic Social Services
Improve the quality and accessibility of education
Improve health and strengthen the quality and accessibility of health facilities

MDG 2: Achieve universal primary education
MDG 3: Promote gender equality and empower women
MDG 4: Reduce infant mortality
MDG 5: Reduce maternal mortality
MDG 6: Combat HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases

UNDAF Outcome 4: Improving health and education, with an emphasis on reduced maternal and child mortality and increased learning achievement.

Country Programme Outcomes	Country Programme Outputs
4.1 Access to quality education for all improved, with focus on learning achievements ILO, IOM, UNDP, UNESCO, UNFPA, UNHCR, UNICEF, WFP **Key Partners** MoE, MoGD, bilateral, regional and international development organizations, NGOs	4.1.1 Quality of teaching workforce improved by increasing number of trained teachers, according to national benchmarks, by 10 per cent annually 4.1.2 Instructional supervision in the education system effected, including upgrading the planning, programming and monitoring skills and capacities of top-level officers of the MoE at central, county and district levels 4.1.3 Enrolment and completion rate increased by 5 per cent annually, and gender parity improved by 2 per cent annually 4.1.4 Literacy rate, especially for girls and women, increased through Accelerated Learning Program and through adult literacy programme 4.1.5 National technical and vocational and national tertiary education action plans developed and implemented, along with revised national school curriculum incorporating life skills and population/family life education

Country Programme Outcomes	Country Programme Outputs
4.2 Maternal and under-five mortality reduced by 30 per cent IOM, UNDP, UNFPA, UNHCR, UNICEF, WFP, WHO **Key Partners** MoH&SW, MRD, MoGD, MLME, LWSC, NGOs	4.2.1 National Health Policy and Plan of Action developed and implemented at all levels 4.2.2 Minimum health package provided by 80 per cent of all functioning health facilities and the number of skilled health workers increased to deliver the minimum health package 4.2.3 National nutrition plan developed and implemented at all levels 4.2.4 Access to basic health, including sexual and reproductive health and social welfare services and information, available to 50 per cent of the population 4.2.5 National and community-based mental health and psychosocial plan developed and implemented 4.2.6 Safe hygiene practices in place in 50 per cent of all communities, including a functional community-managed water and sanitation scheme

Coordination mechanisms and programme modalities

United Nations support will be aligned with national priorities through overall coordination with the LRDC. A United Nations theme group on Education and Health will serve as the primary coordination mechanism for implementing and monitoring this UNDAF outcome; it will prepare a coordinated inter-agency work plan for collaborative activities, including joint programmes. More specifically, support to health services will be coordinated through a restructured health services coordinating committee, under the leadership of the MoH&SW, whose Terms of Reference are being developed.

National Priority: Fighting HIV and AIDS

MDG 6: Combat HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases

UNDAF Outcome 5: An enabling environment in place and organizational capacities enhanced to improve access to HIV/AIDS prevention, treatment, care and support as well as addressing stigma and discrimination

Country Programme Outcomes	Country Programme Outputs
5.1 Incidence of new infections among general population, vulnerable and high risk groups significantly reduced ILO, IOM, UNAIDS, UNDP, UNESCO, UNFPA, UNHCR, UNICEF, WFP, WHO **Key Partners** MoH&SW, MoE, MoGD, NACP, NGOs	5.1.1 Young people, especially child-bearing women and professionals at risk (e.g. health care providers), have access to information and services (emphasizing women-controlled prevention measures) related to voluntary counselling and testing (VCT), prevention of mother-to-child transmission (PMTCT), sexual and reproductive health, HIV, sexually transmitted infections (STIs) and post-exposure prophylaxis (PEP) 5.1.2 Increased accessibility and use of male and female condoms 5.1.3 Public awareness increased and high-risk groups empowered to avoid risky behaviour and curb harmful traditional practices through the implementation of national HIV/AIDS education, adolescent and workplace programmes, education sector policy and strategic plan
5.2 Increased access to high-quality, confidential, gender and culturally sensitive, youth-friendly HIV/AIDS services and information ILO, UNAIDS, UNDP, UNESCO, UNFPA, UNHCR, UNICEF, UNIFEM, WFP, WHO **Key Partners** MoH&SW, NACP, MOL, NGOs	5.2.1 VCT, PMTCT, antiretroviral therapy, medical and palliative care, treatment of opportunistic infections, STIs, PEP and comprehensive sexual and reproductive health services and information scaled up, including youth-friendly sexual and reproductive health services 5.2.2 Comprehensive blood transfusion system established 5.2.3 People living with HIV (PLWH) and infants born to HIV-positive mothers, orphans, and vulnerable children (OVCs) and their caregivers have access to quality and sufficient nutritional support and capacity-building/life skills training 5.2.4 Comprehensive programmes to support quality care for PLWHs/OVCs in place

Country Programme Outcomes	Country Programme Outputs
5.3 Political will, commitment, leadership and funding exist in government and among stakeholders to fight the spread of HIV/AIDS and associated stigma and discrimination UNCT **Key Partners** MoH&SW, MPEA, MoGD, MOL, NAC, NACP	5.3.1 The National AIDS Council revitalized, and the National HIV/AIDS Control Programme restructured and functional 5.3.2 Laws, frameworks and budgeting for the national response to HIV/AIDS in place, including a national workplace policy on HIV/AIDS 5.3.3 Legal and social environment that protects and promotes rights and responsibilities of PLWHs/OVCs and other vulnerable groups created 5.3.4 National monitoring and evaluation framework developed and information management system implemented

Coordination mechanisms and programme modalities

The MoH&SW is the principal coordinator of HIV/AIDS programmes in the country. The section of the ministry specifically responsible for HIV/AIDS is the National AIDS Coordination Programme (NACP). A process has started to revitalize the National AIDS Commission, under the aegis of the president, which will include government, the United Nations and other stakeholders, to provide policy guidance and coordination to the national response to HIV/AIDS. The United Nations coordination mechanism for HIV/AIDS is the United Nations Theme Group on AIDS, which is supported by a technical team referred to as the Joint Team on AIDS. United Nations support will be implemented through a joint programme on HIV/AIDS.

Annex II. UNDAF Monitoring and Evaluation Framework

UNDAF Outcome 1: National and local authorities increasingly have the capacity to provide security, manage conflict, and prevent violence, respecting human rights throughout

Country Programme Outcomes	Indicators and Baselines	Sources of verification	Risks and Assumptions
1.1 Accountable security sector established and functioning	• Number of Armed Forces of Liberia (AFL) / Liberia National Police (LNP) officers trained on human rights **Baseline:** 2,000 AFL selected and 106 soldiers have been trained 2,479 LNP officers have graduated from the Police Academy, 1,069 officers are currently in training; placing expected graduates by end of June 2006 at approx 3,549 • Number of cases of human rights violations within the security sector prosecuted	• Yearly Plans of the AFL/LNP • Ministry of Information • Ministry of Justice • INHRC reports • House Committees' reports • RAND	• Pressure on security sector from external and internal security risks • Capacity constraints • The economy doesn't meet the needs of integration and jobs • Situation in the region could threaten the implementation
1.2 National reconciliation and reintegration processes consolidated with focus on youth empowerment	• Number and type of land and property disputes identified and resolved **Baseline:** Property and housing committees have been established in all counties, however capacity-building in basic conflict-resolution skills needed. • Number of land commissioner offices in place with staff and resources to undertake land dispute issues **Baseline:** Land commissioners are assigned in all 15 counties • Number of war-affected population integrated into the communities **Baseline:** Out of 101,874 ex-combatants, 75,000 have participated in the Liberian rehabilitation and reintegration programme. 97,000 assisted returnees since October 2004 (May 2007). The remaining Liberian refugees are estimated to number 22,988 in Cote d'Ivoire, 24,058 in Ghana, 15,512 in Guinea, 16,882 in Sierra Leone, 4,825 in Nigeria and 1,790 in other North/West African countries. • Number of teachers trained to teach peace, human rights and citizenship education. **Baseline:** There are 4,500 schools in the country, at least one teacher per school needs training	• Ministry of Lands, Mines and Energy reports • Reports of the IHRC • GRC workplans and reports • NEC reports • NCDRR reports • Reports of the Inter-Party Dialogue • Report of ECOWAS President's Special Representative • MRU Secretariat reports • CAAR • Ministry of Education Reports	• Lack of adequate funds/challenges within the MRU/Cavalla basin • Lack of adequate funds; logistical challenges to reach teachers in every school
1.3 Government and civil society have capacity for conflict prevention, management and conflict-sensitive development at national and local levels	• Number and types of conflict-sensitive tools in key national and local government documents developed and implemented **Baseline:** The iPRS reflects conflict-sensitive tools, but remains to be implemented. • Conflict management structures exist in each county	• Government plans and programme documents • GRC • Reports of committees at local and national level • CAAR	• Inadequate funds; challenges on land/property disputes

UNDAF Outcome 2: National economic policies and programmes are being implemented to support equitable, inclusive and sustainable socio-economic development

Country Programme Outcomes	Indicators and Baselines	Sources of verification	Risks and Assumptions
2.1 National mechanisms and capacities for MDG-based, conflict-sensitive planning, analysis and monitoring strengthened	• Proportion of population below national poverty line ($1/day) decreased (MDG 1, Indicator 1) **Baseline:** 76.2 per cent (2001) • Number and type of pro-poor policies and frameworks developed and implemented **Baseline:** iPRS • Number and type of aid coordination mechanisms established and operational **Baseline:** Donor Profiles, LRDC	• National Strategic Plans • Donor Profiles and Aid Coordination guidelines • Disaggregated data from the 2008 Population and Housing Census • Surveys and vulnerability assessment reports	• Conducive political environment • Commitment, including funding and organizational clarity, by government and sustained oversight of clear government policy • Sustained international commitment to fund the national programme, especially rebuilding information and data management capacity
2.2 Increased access to productive employment and equal opportunities for sustainable livelihoods, especially for vulnerable groups and in consideration for conflict factors (baseline studies needed)	• Per cent increase in number of trained Liberians, women and youth, in business • Type and range of income generation activities and number of beneficiaries, disaggregated by age and gender • Share of women in wage employment in the non-agricultural sector (MDG 3, Target 11) • National regime for regulating and stimulating small and medium-scale enterprises passed and enforced • Number of contractual agreements and business licenses between government and corporations/business enterprises that adhere to socially and legally responsible principles, in accordance with ILO and other international standards • Employment rate in the formal and informal sectors by gender and by age groups (MDG 8, Indicator 45) **Baseline:** 80 per cent unemployment in the formal sector • Number of jobs created and recorded in the database of the LEEP/LEAP job creation coordinating mechanism	• National employment data and surveys • Appropriate contracts and procurement processes • Policies: procurement and employment-intensive and private sector development • The Independent National Commission on Human Rights • Ministry of Commerce and Industry • Ministry of Justice • Ministry of Agriculture • Ministry of Land and Mines • Ministry of Labor • National Investment Commission	• Privatization and decentralization efforts continue • Government committed to private sector development and the private sector in turn collaborates with government • Reconstruction efforts are speeded up, and key infrastructure works (roads, water and electricity) are restored to trigger private sector development and create jobs • Liberia stays the course of peace and stability • Liberia stays the course of peace and stability
2.3 Household food security improved, accounting for sustainable natural resources management, environmental protection and gender concerns	• Household food security levels improved (food consumption, dietary diversity, food production, purchasing power) (MDG 1, Target 2) **Baseline:** (CFSNS 2006) – 11 per cent food insecure households – 14 per cent households with poor food consumption levels and	• Results from 2008 Population and Housing Census and national surveys • Comprehensive Food Security and Nutrition Survey (CFSNS) 2006/07 • Liberian Demographic and Health Survey 2006/2007	• Donors remain committed to provide funds to support reconstruction activities and that the government avails other inputs (supplies, human resources, etc)

Country Programme Outcomes	Indicators and Baselines	Sources of verification	Risks and Assumptions
	low dietary diversity – 21 per cent households with very weak access (households with low purchasing power and low production levels) – 49 per cent of rural households produced food crops in 2005 • Food utilization improved, leading to decreased child malnutrition (MDG 1, Indicator 4) **Baseline:** (CFSNS 2006) – 39 per cent of children under five stunted – 7 per cent of children under five wasted – 27 per cent of children under five underweight • Number of persons (government staff, civil society) trained; physical and operational capacities for environmental and natural resources management increased **Baseline:** None exist in terms of institutional capacities, other than a framework law adopted and an environmental protection agency established • Proportion of land covered by forest (MDG 7, Indicator 25) **Baseline:** From 4.1 in 1992 to 3.481 million ha in 2000/01 (or 32.7 per cent) (MDG Report, 2004) • Proportion of land area protected to maintain biological diversity (MDG 7, Indicator 26) **Baseline:** 0.192 in 2001/2002 (MDG Report, 2004) • Per cent increase/decrease in qualities and quantities of natural resources base **Baseline:** Studies would need to be undertaken	• Food security monitoring system • Agricultural Sector Review 2006/2007	• Government remains committed and assumes leadership for overall coordination • Advocacy and social mobilization activities are effective • Communities and local government institutions and officials have capacity to carry out their responsibilities

UNDAF Outcome 3: Democratic, accountable and transparent governance is being advanced in a participatory and inclusive manner and in accordance with human rights standards

Country Programme Outcomes	Indicators and Baselines	Sources of verification	Risks and Assumptions
3.1 Governance systems reformed to promote and sustain democratic principles with strengthened decentralized capacity and participation of disadvantaged groups	• Presence of line ministry representatives in counties **Baseline:** 1739 persons from line ministries, excluding the Ministry of Internal Affairs (2007) • Per cent increase in government budget allocation to counties and districts to implement local level activities **Baseline:** No development budget allocation to counties but a small trust fund under MPEA • National reform strategy developed and adopted **Baseline:** Forestry law adopted, Mineral and Energy policy and Civil Service reform exist in draft form • Increased capacity among community-based organizations **Baseline:** In 2005, there was an estimated total of 800 NGOs, CBOs and others in Liberia with possibly 400 CBOs (30 per county) Studies would be needed to assess their capacity. • Number, type and frequency of print and electronic coverage of public interest issues • A new and restructured NEC established and its electoral management mandate executed successfully • National anti-corruption law passed and independent anti-corruption agency established and operational **Baseline:** Draft strategy, policy and law • Laws and procedures that require disclosure of personal assets by public officials promulgated and enforced **Baseline:** Draft legislation	• Reform Strategy • Government policies • Law reform commission repository - Laws and Policies • Assessment reports; manuals and guidebooks • Ministry of Justice • Law Commission • Bar Association	• Sustained political commitment from the government in adopting a national integrity system, through a reformed civil service and fighting corruption by prosecuting suspects guilty of economic crimes • Government is committed to implementing a decentralization strategy and amends laws (including the constitution) that are inimical to decentralization • Donors are committed to provide resources to support local level development through restoration of country and district governance
3.2 The rule of law strengthened – upholding international human rights standards	• Code of ethics for legislators consistent with international standards enacted and enforced • Number of bills debated and passed • Number of judicial officers (men and women) trained and deployed at circuit courts **Baseline:** 336 Magistrates have been trained and 220 Justices of the Peace have been trained for purposes of commissioning (April 2007) • Number of courts rehabilitated/constructed and functioning/operating; **Baseline:** Seven circuit courts operate in rehabilitated structures, four have incomplete/pending rehabilitated structures, four are in unreconstructed buildings; Circuit courts in rehabilitated/constructed buildings dedicated for their own use: 1 (Robertsport)	• PUL records; MICAT reports and records; newspapers, etc • Debates on National issue; Proceedings of the Legislature • IHRC records • Law Reform reports • Parliamentary records • GRC reports; Law Reform Commission records and reports • NEC reports; partner assessment reports; election monitoring and observation reports	• The National Legislature and Electoral Commission are committed to uphold the constitution, promote good governance and rule of law

Country Programme Outcomes	Indicators and Baselines	Sources of verification	Risks and Assumptions
	On the basis that completing a legal procedure denotes a functioning court (i.e. completion of a trial, assignment) 13 of 15 circuit courts were functioning by end 2006 • Number of cases successfully prosecuted increased by 50 per cent **Baseline:** Courts registered 384 cases, out of which 80 were tried (January 2006 to April 2007)	• MIA Reports and Assessments • National Budget • MPEA Register of NGOs and CBOs • CAAR	
3.3 National and local mechanisms enhanced to uphold human rights, promote political, religious and ethnic tolerance and provide social protection	• Number and category of identified laws, regulations and policies reformed in accordance with international standards **Baseline:** An audit of key Liberian legislation found that the following 11 key laws were inconsistent with Liberia's human rights obligations: Constitution of the Republic of Liberia, Revised Rules and Regulations Governing the Hinterland of Liberia, National Security Agency Act, Penal Code, Customary Marriage Law, Domestic Relations Law, New Aliens and Nationality Law, Associations Law, Labour Law, Public Lands Law, Judiciary Law • Number of vulnerable people effectively integrated/cared for in villages • Number of street children withdrawn and rehabilitated • Proportion of seats held by women in national parliament (MDG 3, Indicator 12) **Baseline:** 14 per cent (2006)		

UNDAF Outcome 4: Improving health and education, with an emphasis on reduced maternal and child mortality and increased learning achievement

Country Programme Outcomes	Indicators and Baselines	Sources of verification	Risks and Assumptions
4.1 Improved access to quality education for all, with focus on learning achievements	• Increased number of qualified trained teachers working in schools that meet developed state regulations **Baseline:** 3,238 teachers or (11 per cent) for 2005/2006 academic year • Number of principals and education officers trained, (targeting all education officers and 800 principals per year) • Increased enrolment rate broken down by age, gender and county (GER & NER) (MDG 2, Indicator 6 and MDG 3, Indicator 9) **Baseline:** Net enrolment ratio (NER) in primary education 50-60 per cent (2001) Ratio of girls/boys in primary education 0.73 (2000) To 2009, 400,000 to 450,000 students will be annually targeted by a school feeding programme • Increased completion rate (proportion of pupils starting grade 1 who reach grade 6 by county) (MDG 2, Indicator 7) **Baseline:** Proportion of pupils starting grade 1 who reach grade 5 (SVR) 31.2 per cent (2001/2002) • Increased percentage of students passing the West African Examination Council (WAEC) exams–broken down by grade, gender and county • Increased adult literacy rate (MDG 2 Indicator 8 and MDG 3, Indicator 10) **Baseline:** Adult literacy: male 50 per cent; female: 26 per cent (NHDR 2006) General illiteracy rate estimated at 70 per cent nationally (iPRS) Locally trained technical and vocational education teachers (250) **Baseline:** No training institution exisits in Liberia • Number of ALP students enrolled and completing the programme targeting 25,000 students per year until 2009 and 1,000 adults through the adult literacy programme **Baseline:** 41,141 students enrolled in 2005/2006 • Learning achievements in and quality of ALP	• National school census (EMIS) • MoE Payroll and Reports • WAEC exam results and report • Report from Adult Education Unit in MoE • National school census (EMIS) • Comprehensive and independent evaluation of Liberia's ALP by the end of 2008	• Difficulty in data collection; Assume data is updated annually • Availability of adequate resources

Country Programme Outcomes	Indicators and Baselines	Sources of verification	Risks and Assumptions

4.2 Maternal and under-five mortality reduced by 30 per cent	• Percentage decrease in maternal mortality rates by county (MDG 5, Indicator 16)
	  Baseline: 760 per 100,000 live births
	• Percentage decrease in under-five mortality rates by county (MDG 4, Indicator 13)
	  Baseline: 235 deaths per 1,000 live births (2004)
	• Number of facilities providing basic and comprehensive emergency obstetric care
	  Baseline: 389 considered functional (2006)
	• Proportion of pregnant women attending antenatal services and births attended by skilled personnel (a range of skills profiles) (MDG 5, Indicator 17)
	  Baseline: Proportion of pregnant women attending antenatal services: 4.4 per cent (2000)
	• Proportion of births attended by skilled health personnel 20.3 per cent (2000)
	• Number of skilled health personnel
	  Baseline: Less than 900 (2006)
	• Number of health facilities providing basic health packages
	  Baseline: 10 per cent (2006)
	• Percentage decrease in malaria prevalence (MDG 6, Indicator 21)
	  Baseline: 37 per cent (2006)
	• Percentage increase in access to safe drinking water (MDG 7, Indicator 29)
	  Baseline: 32 per cent (CFSNS 2006)
	• Percentage increase in access to sanitary facilities (MDG 7, Indicator 30)
	  Baseline: 24 per cent (CFSNS 2006)
	• Proportion of population with access to affordable drugs on a sustainable basis (MDG 8, Indicator 46)
	• Percentage increase in access to modern contraceptive methods
		• Demographic and Health Survey
		• Mortality studies/surveys
		• Epidemiological data census
		• National health service statistics
		• 2008 Population and Housing Census
			• Sufficient and qualified human resources
			• Commitment of all partners in the health and nutrition sector
			• Peace and stability prevails
			• Acceptance and utilization of services by the public
			• Improved road and communication network

UNDAF Outcome 5: An enabling environment in place and organizational capacities enhanced to improve access to HIV/AIDS prevention, treatment, care and support as well as addressing stigma and discrimination

Country Programme Outcomes	Indicators and Baselines	Sources of verification	Risks and Assumptions
5.1 Incidence of new infections among general population, vulnerable and high risk groups significantly reduced	• Percentage decline in prevalence rates by gender and age (MDG 6, Indicator 18) **Baseline:** estimated HIV/AIDS prevalence rate 5.7 per cent; 190,000 people living with HIV/AIDS • Number of condoms distributed and per cent of young women and men/girls and boys reporting the use of condom during their last sexual encounter (MDG 6, Indicator 19) **Baseline:** awaiting results from 2006/2007 DHS • Number of peer educators trained to deliver HIV messages in their community	• Sero-sentinel site surveys	• Increased and widely disseminated information, education and communication messages; • Reduction in certain cultural practices
5.2 Increased access to high-quality, confidential, gender- and culturally-sensitive, youth-friendly HIV/AIDS services and information	• Per cent of women and men living with AIDS, including refugees, on antiretroviral therapy (ART) in the country **Baseline:** 916 persons on ART (2007) • Per cent of pregnant women accessing prevention of mother-to-child transmission (PMTCT) **Baseline:** 151 pregnant women on PMTCT out of 3,140 tested (2006) • Number of children orphaned by HIV/AIDS (MDG 6, Indicator 20) **Baseline:** 36,000 (Children on the Brink Report) • Per cent of health centres providing VCT and treatment of sexually transmitted infections/OIs **Baseline:** 29 VCT centres (Jan 2007) • Per cent of women of child-bearing age utilizing reproductive health commodities **Baseline:** awaiting results from 2006/2007 DHS • Per cent of exposed children who received cotrimoxazole • Per cent of infected children on ART • Number of facilities providing youth-friendly sexual and reproductive health services	• NACP reports • UNHCR Health and Protection reports and statistics • DHS	• Increase in the number of medical doctors in all counties Pregnant women are willing to do VCT • Health personnel are trained and adequately compensated

Country Programme Outcomes	Indicators and Baselines	Sources of verification	Risks and Assumptions
5.3 Political will, commitment, leadership and funding exist in government and among stakeholders to fight the spread of HIV/AIDS and associated stigma and discrimination	• Number of laws enacted and enforced, including health care, social services and employment, prohibiting all forms of discrimination related to HIV/AIDS • Laws enacted and enforced which guarantee equal rights to care, treatment and support, including protection of AIDS orphans • Number of businesses that establish an HIV workplace policy or carry out awareness campaigns • Number of programmes/policies that disseminate anti-discrimination information on HIV/AIDS • Percentage of the national budget allocated to HIV/AIDS	• Ministry of Justice • Ministry of Health and Social Welfare • Ministry of Labor • INCHR • Ministry of Education • Ministry of Information • National Budget	• Legislature adequately informed about HIV/AIDS

ACBF	African Capacity-Building Foundation
AFL	Armed Forces of Liberia
ALP	Accelerated Learning Programme
ART	Antiretrivoral Therapy
AWEPA	Association for European Parliamentarians for Africa
BIN	Bureau of Immigration and Naturalization
BoB	Bureau of the Budget
CAAR	County Assessment and Action Report
CARI	Central Agriculture Research Institute
CBO	Community-based Organizations
CEDAW	Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women
CIP	County Information Pack
CSA	Civil Service Agency
CSO	Civil Society Organization
CST	County Support Team
DDRR	Disarmament, Demobilization, Rehabilitation and Re-integration
DfID	Department for International Development (United Kingdom)
DDC	District Development Committee
DHS	Demographic Household Survey
ECOWAS	Economic Community of West African States
EPA	Environmental Protection Agency
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
FDA	Forestry Development Authority
FLY	Federation of Liberian Youth
GBV	Gender-Based Violence
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
GEMAP	Governance and Economic Management Assistance Programme
GFTAM	Global Fund for Tuberculosis, HIV/AIDS and Malaria
GoL	Government of Liberia
GRC	Governance Reform Commission
HIV	Human Immunodeficiency Virus
ICGL	International Contact Group on Liberia
IDP	Internally Displaced Person
ILO	International Labour Organization
IMF	International Monetary Fund
INCHR	Independent National Commission on Human Rights
IOM	International Organization for Migration
iPRS	Interim Poverty Reduction Strategy
IPU	Inter-Parliamentary Union
IPCC	Inter-Party Consultative Committee
IRC	International Rescue Committee
LANSA	Liberia Action Network on Small Arms
LEAP	Liberia Employment Action Programme
LEEP	Liberia Emergency Employment Programme
LINFU	Liberia National Farmers Union
LiNCSA	Liberia National Commission on Small Arms
LISGIS	Liberia Institute for Statistics and Geo-information Services
LNP	Liberian National Police
LPMC	Liberia Produce Marketing Company
LRDC	Liberian Reconstruction and Development Committee
LWSC	Liberia Water and Sewer Corporation
MDG	Millennium Development Goal
MIA	Ministry of Internal Affairs
MICAT	Ministry of Information, Cultural Affairs and Tourism
MLME	Ministry of Lands, Mines and Energy
MoA	Ministry of Agriculture
MoC	Ministry of Commerce
MoD	Ministry of Defense
MoE	Ministry of Education

MoF	Ministry of Finance
MoGD	Ministry of Gender and Development
MoH&SW	Ministry of Health and Social Welfare
MoJ	Ministry of Justice
MoL	Ministry of Labour
MMR	Maternal Mortality Ratio
MNS	Ministry of National Security
MPEA	Ministry of Planning and Economic Affairs
MPW	Ministry of Public Works
MRD	Ministry of Rural Development
MRU	Mano River Union
MYS	Ministry of Youth and Sports
NAC	National AIDS Commission
NACP	National HIV/AIDS/STI Control Programme
NCDRR	National Commission for Demobilization, Reinsertion and Reintegration
NEC	National Elections Commission
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
NHDR	National Human Development Report
NIC	National Investment Commission
NSA	National Security Agency
NTGL	National Transitional Government of Liberia
OVC	Orphans and Vulnerable Children
PEP	Post-Exposure Prophylaxis
PLWH	People Living with HIV
PMTCT	Prevention of Mother-to-Child Transmission
PRS	Poverty Reduction Strategy
PUL	Press Union of Liberia
SCR	(UN) Security Council Resolution
SETS	Socio-economic Transformation Strategy
STD	Sexually Transmitted Disease
STI	Sexually Transmitted Infection
RFTF	Results Focused Transitional Framework
TRC	Truth and Reconciliation Commission
UNAIDS	Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS
UNCT	United Nations Country Team
UNDAF	United Nations Development Assistance Framework
UNDEF	United Nations Democracy Fund
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
UNFPA	United Nations Population Fund
UNHCR	United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
UNIFEM	United Nations Development Fund for Women
UNMIL	United Nations Mission in Liberia
UNOPS	United Nations Office for Project Services
USAID	United States Agency for International Development
VCT	Voluntary Counselling and Testing
WAEC	West African Examination Council
Watsan	Water and Sanitation
WB	World Bank
WFP	World Food Programme
WHO	World Health Organization