





UNDP: Liberia Decentralization Support Program (LDSP) II

	Implementing partner(s)	UNDP, Ministry of Internal Affairs
	Location	National
	Agreement period	June 2022 – December 2025
	Budget total (Sweden)	20 000 000 SEK

Overview and objectives

The Liberia Decentralization Support Program II (LDSP II), implemented by UNDP as the agreement partner for Sida, builds on previous support towards Liberia's decentralization process (LDSP I, 2016-2020). Major achievements of the LDSP I were the establishment of 15 County Service Centres (CSC) as well as the passage of the Local Government Act (LGA).

LDSP II has been running since 2020 and is funded also by the Irish Embassy, UNDP, and the Government of Liberia (GoL). In close cooperation with the GoL and the Ministry of Internal Affairs, the program aims to contribute to strengthening democracy, transparency, and accountability by improving the level of decentralization at various levels. The Swedish support is in particular targeting fiscal decentralization as this has been identified as a key component for sustainable decentralization in Liberia.

The programme outcomes targeted are:

- Local Government Act reforms implemented through enhanced participation of stakeholders (male, female, PWDs) in decision-making and service delivery,
- Local government institutions and services are fully devolved at the assigned levels of government,
- County Service Centers empowered and capacitated for improved service delivery at the sub-national level,
- Legal and Regulatory Reforms developed and implemented to sustain decentralization,
- Programme management support, coordination, and monitoring strengthened.

Activities

The LDSP II will practically support and facilitate the implementation of the National Policy on Decentralization and Local Government (NPDLG). Through its outcomes it will also operationalize the Local Government Act (LGA, 2018). In line with the NPDLG and LGA, relevant, effective, efficient, sustainable and strategic delivery of services at the local governance level are the central pursuit of the LDSP II. The activities deliberately target decentralization of administrative, political, and fiscal governance in Liberia and its alignment to the peace building and reconciliation processes and Public Sector Reform Agenda.



Figure 1: Signing of 2018 Local Government Act.
Photo credit: Liberia Land Authority