

## ForumCiv II: Our Land

| (ALL)          | Implementing partner(s) | ForumCiv                             |
|----------------|-------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| m <sup>2</sup> | Location                | Bomi, Bong, and Grand Gedeh counties |
|                | Agreement period        | December 2021 – December 2025        |
|                | Budget total (Sweden)   | 46 556 850 SEK                       |

## Overview and objectives

The Embassy has identified just access to land as a key dimension in preventing conflict and building sustainable and peaceful communities, especially regarding women and youth. It is also prioritised to support the strengthening of national and community based CSO's since they are identified as a major contributor to social cohesion. The programme focuses on women and youth, which are identified as potential and prioritised change agents in the Liberia strategy and has a significant dimension on environmental security and impact. The programme will contribute to increased access to land for women and youth as well



Figure 1: Cutting the Ribbon: H.E Ambassador Ingrid Wetterqvist cuts the ribbon during official opening of the ForumCiv Country Office in Gbarnga. Photo Credit: ForumCiv

as strengthen civil society in Liberia with a long view to increased social cohesion and conflict prevention in Liberia. The main objective of the programme is to ensure that women and youth from rural communities in Bomi, Bong and Grand Gedeh counties effectively participate in land governance and management, and access ownership and control of their land for sustainable development and resilience to climate change."

Expected outcomes of this programme include:

- 1) improving capacity of ForumCiv's office and partners,
- 2) increased awareness on land governance,
- 3) target groups developing their own strategies for access and ownership of land, and
- 4) dialogue and partnerships between civil society and other actors.

## **Activities**

ForumCiv supports partner organisations, primarily small rural Civil Society Organisations, working on land rights. ForumCiv are using their methodology called "Right(s) Way Forward" in their engagement with local CSOs. Besides support to community-based civil society, ForumCiv are planning to connect and engage the CSO's with existing networks and coalitions on land rights.

In addition to the capacity building that ForumCiv will tailor for each partner, they are also distributing 1) 12 140 685 SEK in direct grants to 15 partners, and 2) 723 540 SEK as grants for training women to become licenced land surveyors at the Forestry Training Institute. This stands for approximately 25 % of the budget and the grants will be used to fund specific initiatives under the Community Action Plans, which are created with support from ForumCiv as a part of the Right(s) Way Forward methodology.