

IDLO: Inception Phase, Liberia 2021 - 2022

	Implementing partner(s)	International Development Law Organization (IDLO)
	Location	Nationwide
	Agreement period	September 2021 – December 2022
	Budget total	4 955 000 SEK

Overview and objectives

Liberia has made significant improvements in consolidating its peace and young democracy while enhancing the protection of human rights. However, progress in the justice sector has been slow and inconsistent. Despite the large interventions by both the United Nations Mission in Liberia (UNMIL) and the donor community in the justice sector over the past two decades, Liberia is still facing significant rule of law deficits which continue to undermine the effective and fair delivery of justice, especially for people living in poverty.



Figure 1: IDLO Logo

The Inception phase for strengthening Liberia's social contract through better access to justice and increased legitimacy of justice and security providers at the household level, aims to identify more sustainable and participatory ways of enhancing both the supply and demand side of justice in Liberia. The project is rooted in the PDIA (Problem Driven Iterative Adaptation) approach which allows in-project designing, testing, and iterating and building of local solutions and interventions to address root causes of rule of law challenges.

The inception phase also seeks to accomplish the following:

- assess what progress has been made over the past five years (2015-2020),
- ascertain the main gaps, both on the demand and the supply side of justice, and
- identify potential opportunities, which can have a transformative, inclusive, and sustainable impact on the rule of law sector in Liberia.

Activities

During the inception phase, IDLO will do a thorough needs assessment and gap analysis and apply an evidence-based approach to both program design and implementation by conducting an overview of the rule of law sector, putting specific emphasis on:

- the impact of past rule of law programming and the identification of best practices.
- the capacity of justice and security sector institutions and the identification of effective ways to transition from individual capacity building to more sustainable institutional capacity building.
- the barriers affecting access to justice for women, girls, and vulnerable groups (including GBV survivors) and/or limiting their participation in accountability processes.
- the availability of legal aid services, especially in remote counties and for citizens facing increased marginalization.

Community-driven accountability mechanisms will also be introduced which seek to enhance the engagement by both CSOs and citizens.