



# USAID | LIBERIA

FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

## Democracy & Governance: Civil Society

The five-year, \$12 million Community Peace Building and Development Program (CPBD) facilitates community revitalization and recovery. USAID designed the CPBD to support the development of local capacity to undertake service delivery; promote conflict resolution, peace building and economic livelihood; and develop community communications systems. USAID Liberia's civil society program is progressing from community development and institutional capacity building to a strategy of supporting NGOs with increased capacity to take on education and advocacy roles, to form and strengthen networks of NGOs, and to build capacity of one or more networks to foster growth of less capable NGOs. CSOs which are a part of USAID's sector programs will be priority civil society partners.

### *Accomplishments:*

- CPBD covers four counties and works in 200 communities which benefit from social mobilization, infrastructure, income generation and agriculture programs. It works with about 20 non-governmental organizations strengthening capacity in program and organizational development activities and established 25 community radio stations;
- Social mobilization efforts and projects, including construction and rehabilitation of roads, bridges and other community infrastructure, have resulted in synergies and follow-on activities with other donors;
- Localized manuals on income generation and conflict/peace building have been developed; and
- Fifty non-governmental organizations have been trained in organizational development and program management through the Capable Partners Strengthening Program.

### *Plans/Current Priorities:*

- USAID will advance its work with national non-governmental organizations, local government, and communities; rehabilitate infrastructure which supports governance and economic livelihood activities; and target youth and women to seek to improve their standards of living and facilitate their reintegration to society;
- A new civil society program will shift from the traditional institutional capacity building approach toward a sector-based advocacy one; advocacy efforts will be led by national NGOs and align with Government of Liberia priorities which are reflected in the mission's education, health and anti-corruption programs; and

- Gender, public outreach/education and local community advocacy will be factored in as cross-cutting themes.

*Partners:*

- AED, DAI, NDI, UNDP

*Challenge:*

- A program description is being completed for award this FY. Civil society organizations and OTI contributed to design of the strategy shift and concept paper.