Naymote Partners for Democratic Development

ANNUAL PROGRAM REPORT 2024 FOR THE DEMOCRACY ADVANCEMENT PROGRAM (DAP)

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ACRONYMS

CCTV	Closed-circuit Television
DAP	Democracy Advancement Program
DI	Democracy International
EAs	Enumeration Areas
ECOWAS	Economic Community of West African States
FGD	Focus Group Discussion
GC	Governance Commission
HH	Households
KIIs	Key Informant Interviews
KPIs	Key Performance Indicators
MFDP	Ministry of Finance and Development Planning
MOE	Ministry of Education
MOH	Ministry of Health
OCA	Organizational Capacity Assessment
PMP	President's Meter Project
PWC	PricewaterhouseCoopers (Liberia) LLC
RACE	Research, Advocacy, and Civic Engagement
SIDA	Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency
SP	Strategic Plan
ToC	Theory of Change
UN	United Nations
UNDP	United Nations Development Program
USAID	United States Agency for International Development
YPLSA	Young Political Leadership School Africa

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Executive Summary

In 2022 the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (SIDA), through the Embassy of Sweden awarded a grant to Naymote Partners for Democratic Development to implement the **'Democracy Advancement Program (DAP),** a three-year governance support program. The program seeks to establish a channel for public accountability and strengthen the social contract between political leaders and the citizens. This is done by generating and disseminating timely and credible information on government programs/policies about citizens' demands and expectations. The program's overarching goal is to enhance democratic governance for inclusive development in Liberia. This goal is undergirded by the strategic objective of 'increased demand on the government to deliver on its political, development and campaign promises.

DAP was conceived to pursue three key outcomes:
- **Outcome 1:** Citizens, especially women and youth in selected counties are better informed and active in making demands for improved service delivery and for accountability of elected officials on elections campaign promises in Liberia.
- **Outcome 2:** Local government officials are more responsive to the needs of citizens, especially women and youth in the use of social development funds to enhance local development within selected counties.
- **Outcome 3:** Naymote has increased capacity and effective governance to accomplish its strategic plan for 2020-2025 and enhance organizational effectiveness to advance/impact democratic governance in Liberia and the ECOWAS sub-region.

The program is premised on a specific Theory of Change that *"IF a government is politically accountable, THEN the quality of democracy is improved, and THEN citizens benefit from their participation in democratic processes".*

This report covers activities implemented from September 2023 to August 31, 2024.

Results

Naymote achieved significant results through its governance tracking, advocacy, and capacity-building initiatives:
- **Presidential Performance Tracking:**
  - Monitored 119 promises made by President Joseph Nyuma Boakai, Sr., reporting 3% completed, 59% ongoing, 14% not started, and 24% unrated due to insufficient data.
  - The report engaged over 100,000 citizens through diverse platforms, sparking broad discussions and influencing government priorities under the AAREST agenda.
- **Legislative Performance Monitoring:**

- o Documented 122 legislative sittings, 12 laws passed, and 893 executive officials confirmed without rejection.
  - o Enhanced legislative openness by training staff and donating laptops, resulting in improved documentation and tracking.
  - o Engaged the Speaker of the House for reforms, including plans for audits and improved legislative performance.
- **Citizen Engagement:**
  - o Conducted 14 town hall meetings across five counties, reaching 3,753 participants (53% female). This surpassed the 2025 target of 3,145 participants, demonstrating increased public awareness.
- **Policy Impact:**
  - o Produced and distributed policy briefs on health and education financing, prompting advocacy for budgetary improvements.
  - o Released 50 ARREST Agenda budget analyses and county service center surveys, fueling informed discussions on government accountability.
- **Young Political Leadership School Africa (YPLS):**
  - o Trained 100 participants in its 11th cohort, raising the total alumni to 1,130.
  - o Achieved notable alumni successes, including elected and appointed positions across Africa.
- **Institutional Strengthening:**
  - o Released a County Service Center assessment, prompting government action to allocate 40% of revenue for operational improvements.
  - o Developed fundraising and sustainability strategies, enhanced gender inclusion, and secured resources for improved program delivery.

Naymote's interventions strengthened governance accountability, empowered citizens, and fostered collaboration among key stakeholders, demonstrating a measurable impact on Liberia's democratic processes.
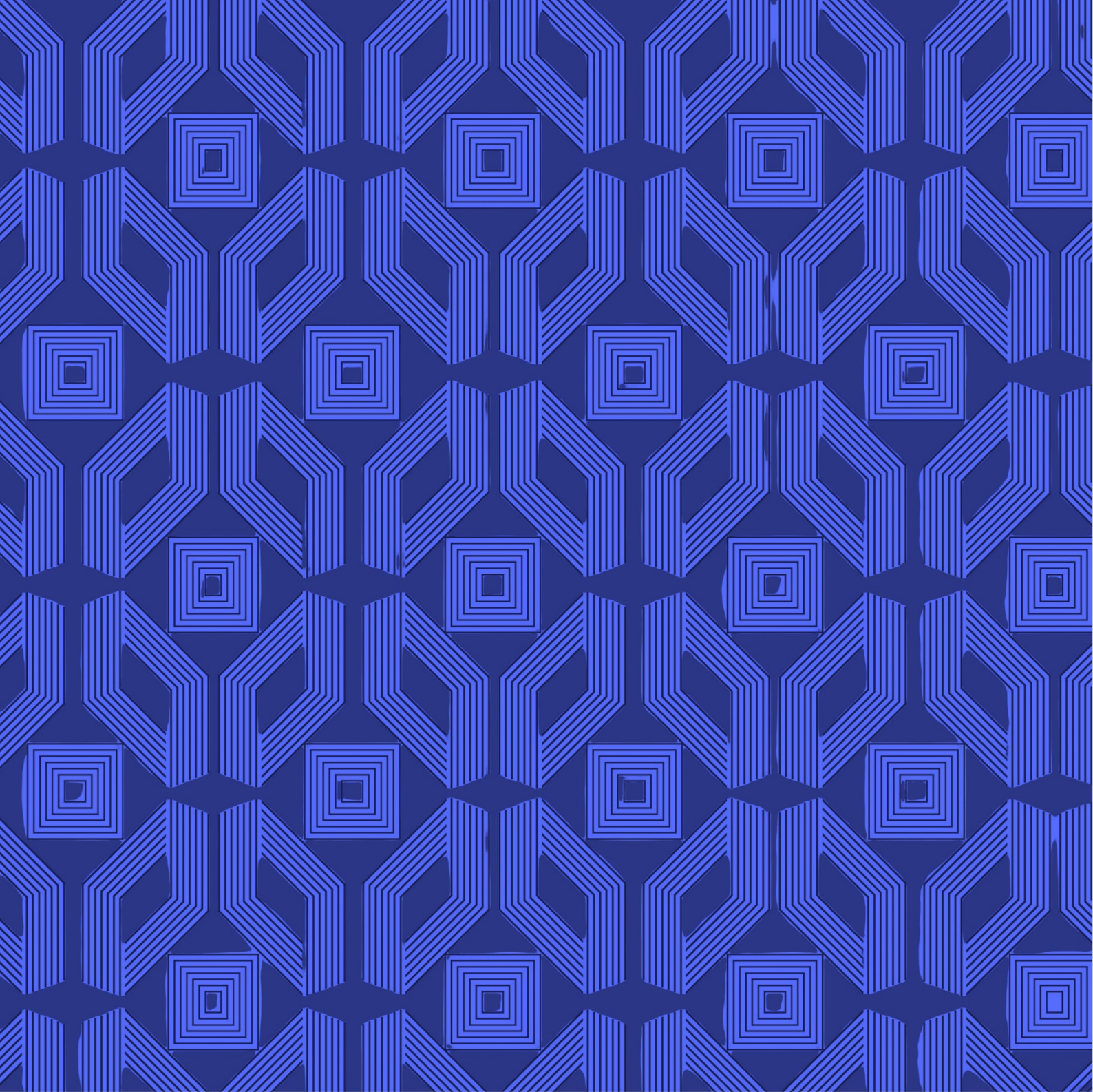
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INTRODUCTION
BACKGROUND & OVERVIEW OF PROGRAM

Section One: Introduction – Background and Overview of Program

1. Introduction

In continuation of the implementation of the Democracy Advancement Program which was awarded Naymote Partners for Democratic Development in September 2022, by the Swedish International Development Corporation Agency (SIDA), through the Embassy of Sweden in Liberia, the institution has led many initiatives aimed at achieving the program's overall goal. The DAP aims to improve political accountability between citizens and their leaders and to further strengthen Naymote's institutional capacity as an advocacy and democracy promotion organization within the region.

For the second year of the DAP, it has achieved notable progress in the three outcomes, the activities went well, and impacts are visible. The continuation of the program during Liberia's preparation for the 2023 presidential and legislative elections proved to be a strategic advantage. Instead of interfering with the electoral process, the campaign period offered a valuable chance to promote accountability and inform citizens about the crucial role of elections in holding elected officials accountable.

The reporting period covers activities implemented by the DAP and the impacts for the second year of programming from September 1, 2023 to August 31, 2024. The report has three (3) broad sub-divisions. These include an introductory sub-division that provides information on the institution, the background of the DAP, and an overview of the

program's components. The second sub-division details major activities undertaken by the program during the year under review and the results of those activities. The activities and corresponding results are separately presented under their respective components.

These activities are presented first and then followed by the results. The third and final sub-division of the report captures the challenges encountered during this reporting period. This section documents major hurdles that had to be tackled by the different teams working on the DAP.

1.1 Background

The effect of bad governance in Liberia led to the 14 years of civil crisis in the country yet, Liberia's democracy remains fragile. Liberia like many other African countries has suffered bad governance and it still facing challenges like corruption, weak institutional capacity, and limited efforts in strengthening decentralization. Liberia's leadership is based on the theory of Unitary Sovereignty. Within this political framework, power and political authority are heavily centralized and rest with the Presidency. With political power comes the privilege of unlimited access to state resources, which are used to enhance a patron-client political relationship that excludes a greater portion of the population from decision-making processes and access to resources. These factors served as two drivers of the Liberian crisis.

Liberia has had four successive Presidential and Legislative Elections (2005, 2011, 2017, 2023) but yet, its democracy is evolving, and citizens' participation in the governance processes is low. This is reinforced by limited political accountability between elections and citizens have limited opportunities to hold elected officials accountable. While this might partly be due to weak institutions, the lack of or restricted access to information on the government's policies and promises, and the government's responsibilities to the citizens has also played a key role in a weakened accountability mechanism between the government and the citizens. Public institutions fighting corruption and promoting

accountability face numerous challenges — not least the lack of resources and political interference — to fully execute their mandates. Although the public has a greater interest in understanding how public resources are used and how the government intends to address their problems and deliver services (as revealed during calls on radio programs), they most often do not access accurate information regarding these issues. This has affected how citizens, mostly young people, participate in politics and make electoral choices, or demand accountability and submit petitions to their elected leaders.

Productive political engagements that facilitate viable mechanisms for accountability between citizens and their leaders are powered by timely and accurate information on both sides. As the popular saying goes, **informed citizens make informed decisions**, so leaders are likely to make policy decisions based on available and credible information. Political accountability and credible policy choices, thus, depend on credible information generated from both sides.

To address some of the above-mentioned challenges, the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (SIDA) is partnering with Naymote Partners for Democratic Development to implement a three-year governance support program. The program, fully funded by SIDA is entitled, **'Democracy Advancement Program (DAP)**. The DAP seeks to establish a channel for public accountability between political leaders and the citizens. This is done by generating and disseminating timely and credible information on government programs concerning citizens' demands and expectations. The rationale is that government will become more responsive by using information generated from the citizens to develop and implement policies on one hand and that citizens will become involved by using information generated on government's policy programs and service delivery to demand accountability, make political decisions, and contribute to public governance.

1.2 Overview of the Program (DAP)

DAP is a pro-democracy intervention. The program has three distinct components that are interrelated and reinforcing. The first component is Political Accountability. Component two is Inclusive Local Governance, and the third component focuses entirely on Naymote's institutional capacity strengthening. DAP's implementation has followed a Research, Advocacy, and Civic Engagement (RACE) approach. The program's overarching goal is to enhance democratic governance for inclusive development in Liberia. This goal is undergirded by the strategic objective of 'increased demand on the government to deliver on its political, development and campaign promises'.
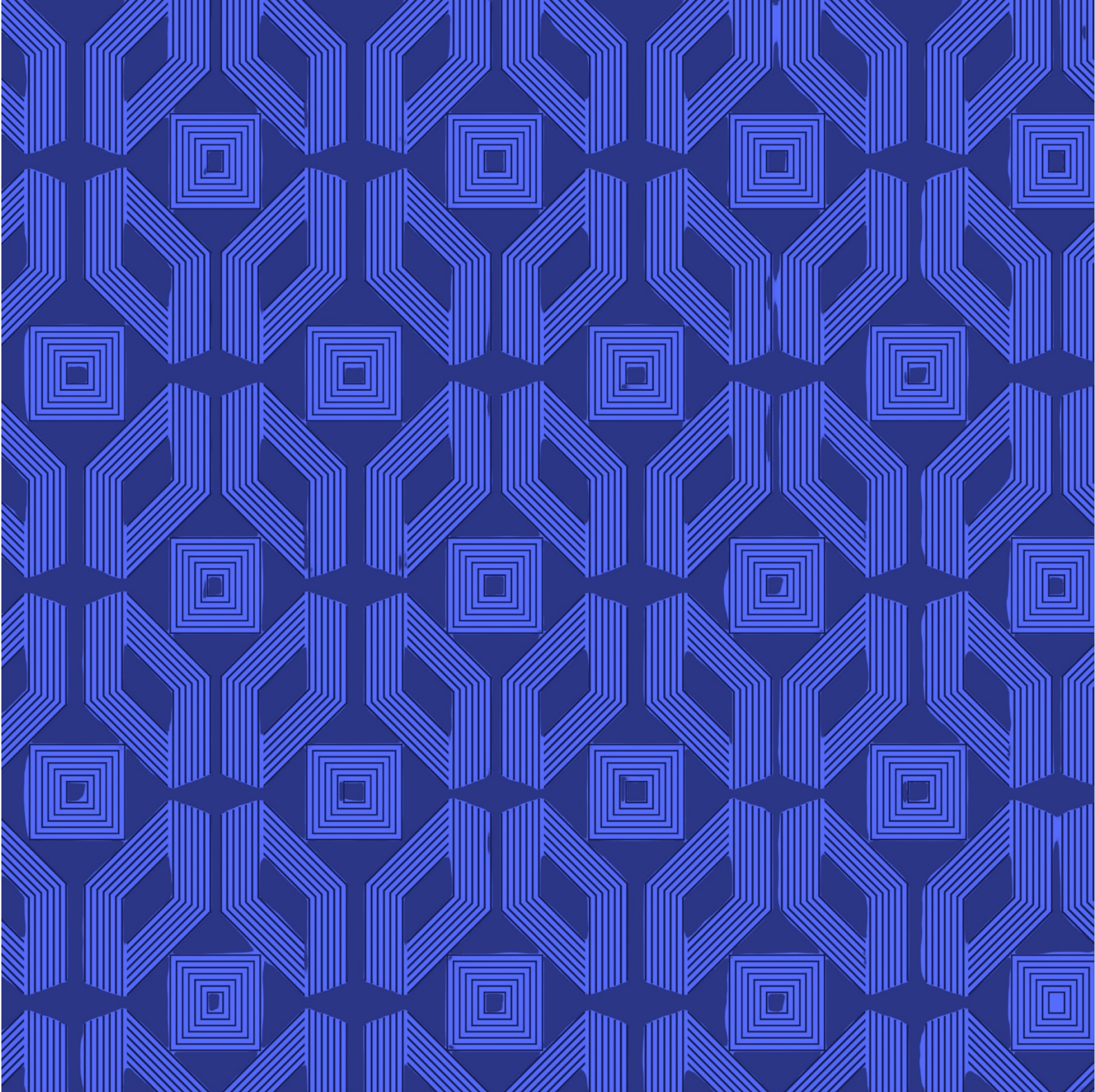
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MAJOR ACTIVITIES & RESULTS PER PROGRAM COMPONENT

2.1 Activities

The institution implemented 32 activities during this reporting period in line with the project work plan. These activities include dialogues, conferences, summits, town hall meetings, legislative engagements, and surveys on the quality of social services, amongst many others. Below are the activities presented under their respective program component.
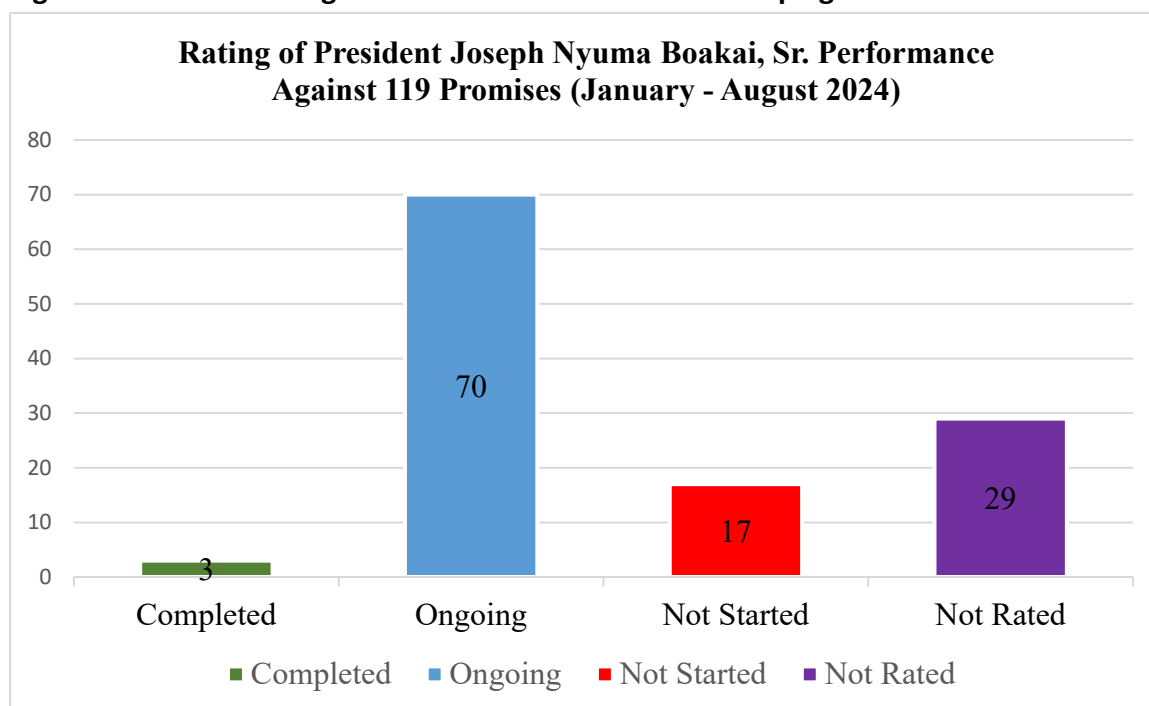
- The Institution's Protection Plan was developed.
- Hard copies of the institution's annual report were produced.
- Training sessions were conducted for procurement, finance, and programs staff to understand and adhere to internal policies and programming.
- Retreat for program staff to review annual work and institutional policies conducted.
- Fundraising plan and sustainability strategy developed.
- Two Report on the President Meter Project (PMP) completed and published
- Two Policy briefs on Health and Education were completed and published
- One Legislative digest report was completed and published
- One meeting was held with the head of the county council in Bong, it helped enhance the relationship between the county council and Naymote.

2.1.1 Political Accountability

President Meter Report Activity (PMP)

Naymote Partners for Democratic Development political accountability interventions have extended its impact beyond merely tracking and documenting promises and performance to fostering a culture of accountability, active citizen engagement, and informed decision-making in governance under the President Meter Report activity. This initiative since 2018 aims to fortify the social contract between the people and their elected president. This innovative project addresses the increasing demand for elected presidents to fulfil the promises made during and after their campaigns. During this reporting period, the institution published the president's performance report under the President Meter Project, which covers promises made during and after the 2023 elections. This research and publication initiative serves the purpose of advancing political accountability. See below the synopsis of the report's findings on the PMP in Figure 1:

Figure 1: PMP – Tracking President's Performance on Campaign Promises

Rating of President Joseph Nyuma Boakai, Sr. Performance Against 119 Promises (January - August 2024)

Category	Value
Completed	3
Ongoing	70
Not Started	17
Not Rated	29

From January through August of 2024, Naymote kept track of and categorized 119 commitments under the leadership of President Joseph N. Boakai, Sr. A total of $378.15 million, or 51.2% of the national budget, was allotted to the President's AREST agenda (Agriculture, Roads, Rule of Law, Education, Sanitation, and Tourism), in response to public demands that the President should deliver on campaign and post-campaign promises. Figure one shows that only 3% (3 promises) have been fully implemented by the government - since they assumed leadership, and 59% of promises (70 of all promises) are ongoing while 24 % (17 promises have not started) and 14% (29 promises) not rated because no government action has been taken or no available information to update these statuses and there was no available information on the status of those promises.

Meanwhile, Naymote printed and distributed 300 hard copies of the President Meter Report to several stakeholders including local and international partners. Additionally, soft copies of the report were made readily available across digital platforms, chatrooms, emails, and Naymote's website. This dual approach ensured that individuals with varying preferences for information consumption had access to the report, whether through hard copies or the convenience of digital formats.

One of the key success factors in ensuring the report's accessibility was its online presence. The report was made available for download on Naymote's website, resulting in an impressive 1,074 downloads. Furthermore, it is worth noting that additional untraceable copies were downloaded from Naymote's official social media accounts, and several media institutions' websites, indicating a considerable level of interest and engagement with the report's content in the online community. This online reach significantly extended the

report's influence, facilitating the flow of essential information to a broad and diverse audience.

The institution applied efforts to ensure that the different groups of people had access to the report through different mediums such as the radio appearances where Naymote representatives and talk show hosts engaged with audiences and key stakeholders, discussed the report, and directed listeners to the download link on Naymote's website. This strategy was instrumental in reaching individuals with limited internet access, ensuring that the report's insights were accessible to a broader demographic. Additionally, policy dialogues and town hall meetings provided a platform for stakeholders and policymakers to engage with the report's content. Attendees at these events were encouraged to access and explore the report, promoting a deeper understanding of its findings within influential circles. Lastly, at the community level, residents actively requested copies of the report and organized discussions around its contents, fostering a bottom-up approach to information sharing. These collective efforts effectively disseminated the report to a diverse and extensive audience, ultimately promoting informed engagement with its valuable findings.

Legislative Monitoring Report

For the period under review, the institution monitored and reported on the activities of the Liberian Legislature which was aimed at promoting legislative openness. This legislative monitoring report provides information that citizens may use in advancing accountability, particularly in engaging with their elected representatives, and encourages Legislative responsiveness as well.

The rigorous monitoring of the performance of the 55th legislature of Liberia and their legislative engagements was led by six (6) legislative interns/monitors recruited, trained and assigned at the House of Representatives and Liberian Senate, all of whom are alumni of our Young Political Leadership School Africa. Interns participated in legislative processes, observed sessions, public hearings, committee meetings, conducted proper research, documentation, monitoring and tracking of legislative works and submitted weekly and monthly individual reports to Naymote management.

A comprehensive report on legislative monitoring was made accessible to citizens through a multi-faceted approach, ensuring that the findings and insights were widely disseminated.

Hard copies of the report were distributed to members of the Liberian Legislature, development partners, INGOs, NGOs and CBOs, the media, women and youth groups, etc. It was also accessible on the Naymote website and various digital platforms for download.

Copies were distributed to citizens across the project counties at town hall meetings and other engagement meetings, while press releases were issued to the public and radio engagements were done to disseminate the report findings widely.

The report's distribution and accessibility had substantial value in promoting accountability between citizens and their legislators. It increased awareness about legislative activities and government transparency, giving citizens the tools to engage with their elected representatives more effectively. Furthermore, it catalyzed advocacy and reform efforts, as citizens and civil society organizations could use it as a foundation for demanding financial audits, and legislative openness, and process improvements. Lastly, the report's discussion in town hall meetings fostered community dialogue among various stakeholders, enhancing the relationship between citizens, government representatives, and civil society organizations. Overall, the comprehensive distribution of the report facilitated a more informed, engaged, and accountable citizenry.

Summary of Findings: Legislative Monitoring Report

For the period January 15 to July 18, 2024, the report reveals that the House and Senate performed their three critical functions of lawmaking, oversight, and representation. In performing these roles, either House has to undertake a series of compelling actions. Some include sitting for plenary sessions, enacting laws, confirming executive officials by the Senate, etc.

The report found that during this reporting period, the 55th Legislature collectively held 122 sittings. It passed 12 laws while the Liberian Senate confirmed a total of 893 executive officials. There were 34 public hearings held during the period, with July recording the highest number of hearings (9) while January was the lowest with no hearing held.

Figure 2: Sittings of the Legislature (Comparative figures, 2024)

Sittings of the Legislature, 2024

- Regular Sittings: **59.8%**
- Executive Sittings: **23%**
- Special Sittings: **1.6%**
- Extraordinary Sittings: **15.6%**
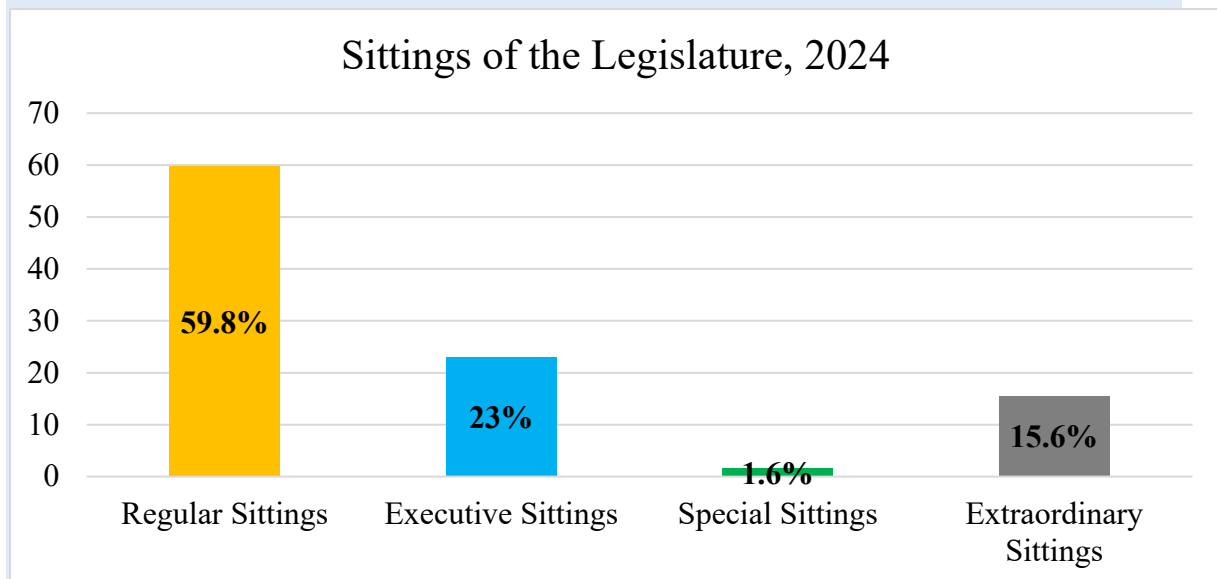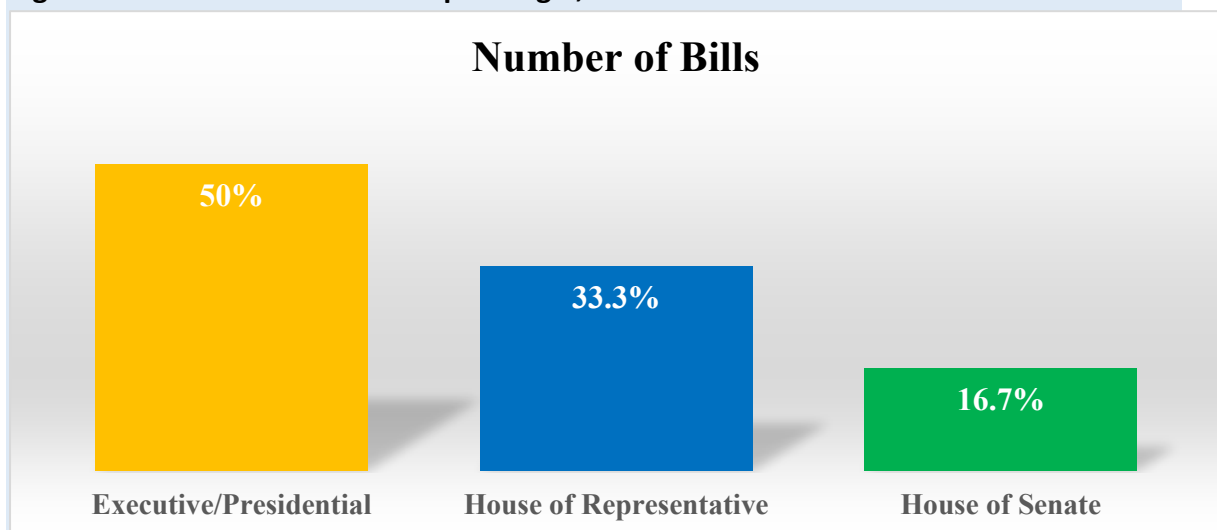
The Legislature passed a total of **12 bills between January to July 2024**, of which **6** originated from the Executive/Presidency, **4** from the House of Representatives, and **2** from the Senate.

Figure 3: Number of Bills Passed per Origin, 2024

Number of Bills

- Executive/Presidential: **50%**
- House of Representative: **33.3%**
- House of Senate: **16.7%**

The 55 Legislature passed a budget of US738,859,827.00. That is 738.86m. Out of this amount,

the Legislature's appropriations are US53,376,575.00. The House of Representatives carries US 32,505,188.00, while the Senate takes 16,110.271 million United States Dollars. Meanwhile, there are still popular demands to audit the financial records of the Legislature from 2018 to 2022 but to date have yielded no results.

After the publication of these two reports on political accountability, Naymote conducted a total of thirty-two (32) engagements with different stakeholders including town hall meetings, legislative dialogues, democracy, and political accountability

summits, stakeholders' engagements, call centers amongst many others across the five program counties (Montserrado, Bong, Lofa, Nimba, and Grand Bassa) during the reporting period. These meetings provided a space for interaction among stakeholders including citizens, government representatives, political parties, civil society organizations, youth groups, women's groups, the media, town chiefs, district commissioners, paramount chiefs, district-level political party officials, and people with disabilities among others.

Overall, the institution engaged 3,753 participants who actively shared their viewpoints during these meetings with 47% (1,753) males and 53% (2,000) females inclusive of persons living with disability and youth. The table and graph below show the number of town hall meetings held and the total number of participants per county.

County	Number of meetings	Total Participants	% Male	% Female
Grand Bassa	2	115	40%	60%
Lofa	3	174	38%	62%
Montserrado	4	379	44%	57%
Bong	2	107	48%	52%
Nimba	3	179	52%	48%
Total		954		

Figure 4: Town Hall Meetings

Project Counties Townhall Meetings Attendance
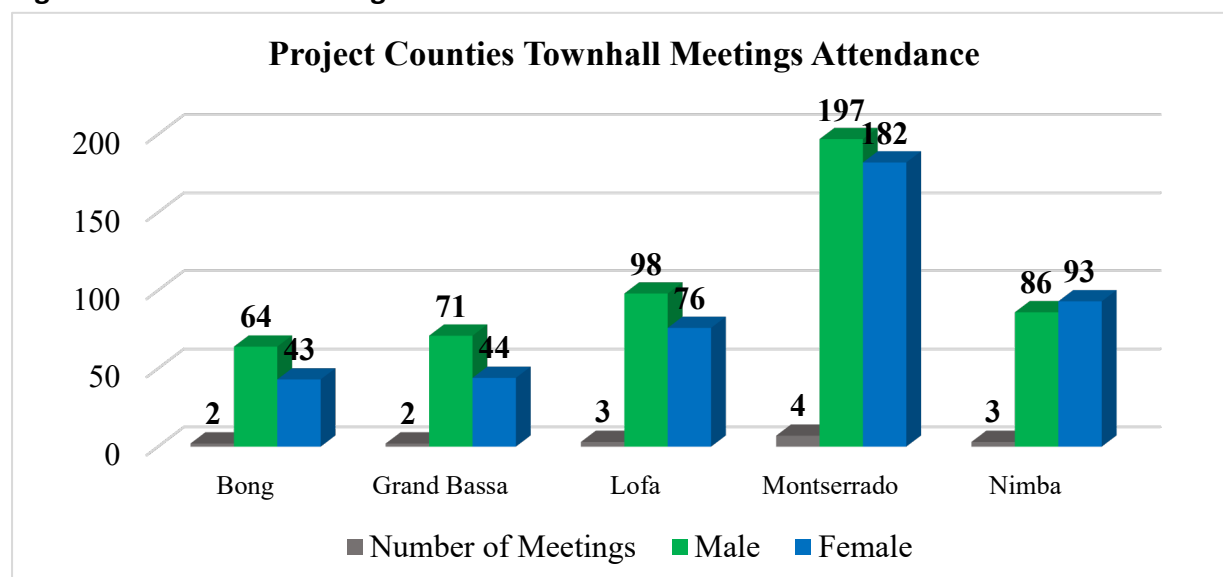
PROGRAM COUNTIES IN RED

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Training for Legislative Staff on Legislative Openness (Seminar)

One-day seminar on Legislative Strengthening and Effectiveness for non-elected staff of the Liberian Legislature was successfully held in Monrovia during this reporting period and brought together 40 persons, consisting of 32.0% females and 67.9% males. The seminar was held on February 3, 2024, in partnership with the Legislative Information Service (LIS), and greatly contributed to the legislative staff's effectiveness and professional development. The table below shows the number of legislative staff per department/unit at the legislature that benefited from the seminar.

Figure 5: Legislative Staff Training Beneficiaries
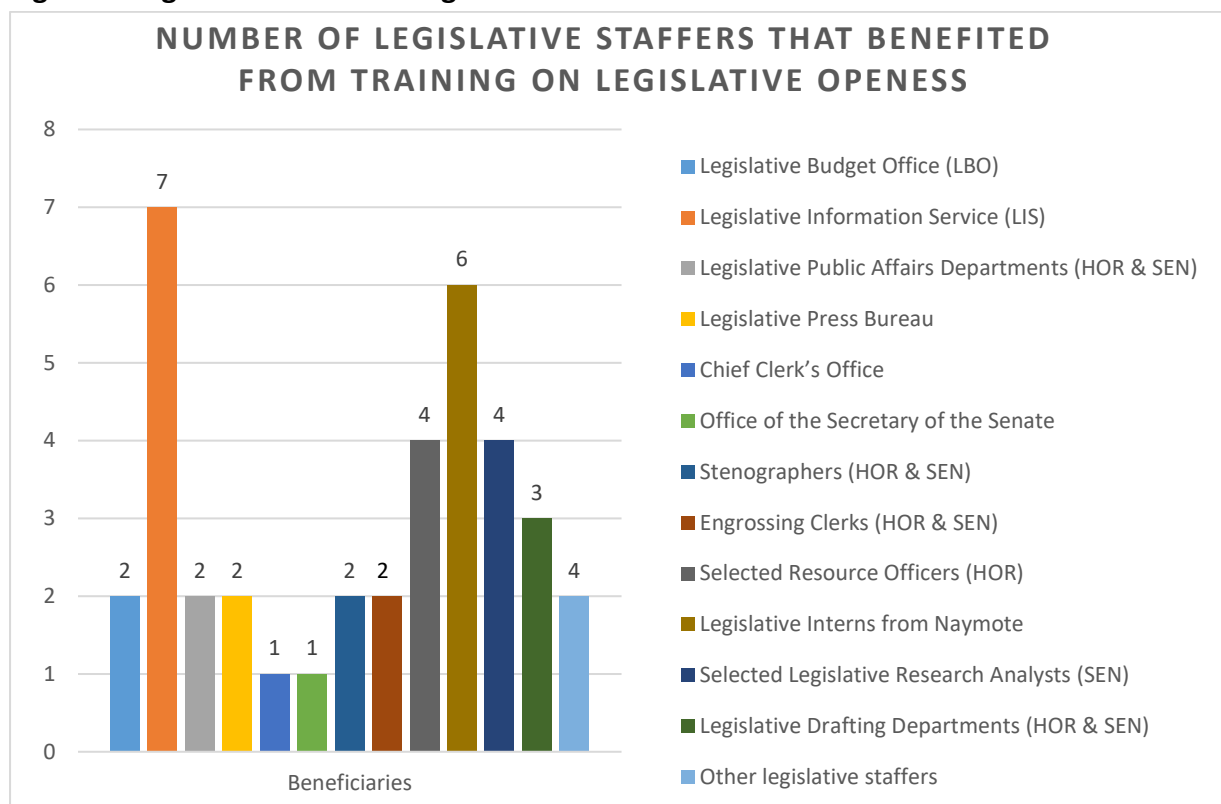
The seminar empowered participants with the requisite tools, knowledge, and skills to enhance their legislative capacity and effectiveness, fostered discussions on transparency and accountability mechanisms within legislative bodies, explored best practices and lessons learned, as well as created a platform for knowledge exchange among legislators, legislative staff, and civil society, thus promoting a collaborative approach to legislative strengthening. The seminar was an eye-opener and a moment of self-realization for participants. The evaluation conducted revealed that the seminar contents were relevant to the participants and educative. Each participant was exposed to the habits of highly effective people and they committed to practicalizing at least one (1) new habit to help them become highly effective.

The seminar provided the opportunity for legislative staffers to acquire knowledge and skills of the role of the Legislative Information Service in gathering and sharing information while advancing the culture of legislative openness through statistics, and sharing legislative best practices in plenary. The seminar also clearly documented several issues hindering legislative staff efficiency and effectiveness. Sessions were facilitated by Dr. Tanya A. Garnett Consultant, Mr. B McCarthy Weh II, Director LIS, Mr. Osceafah Woods Engrossing Clerk-Senate, Mrs. Tuah Woods-Ross Engrossing Clerk-House of Representative, and Eddie D. Jarwolo – Executive Director, Naymote.

Following the seminar, Naymote donated four (4) new laptop computers to the Legislative Internship Program and the Legislative Information Service. These laptops are being used to enhance data collection, streamline legislative information documentation, and improve the overall efficiency of recording processes. This donation directly supports initiatives to strengthen legislative transparency and accessibility, ensuring accurate and timely information dissemination.

Summit for Democracy

A Pathway for a Sustainable Democracy in Liberia

A two-day Summit for Democracy and Political Accountability under the theme *Fostering Pathway for Sustainable Democracy in Liberia* was organized by Naymote Partners for Democratic Development at the Sinkor Palace Hotel from March 20-21, 2024, in Monrovia, Liberia. The summit served as a forum for policy adjustments and expectations surrounding President Boakai's development agenda, with the overall goal of starting a process that brings the government closer to the people and the voices of the people are heard. It was the conglomeration of a national policy forum on political accountability with government officials, civil society, and national partners and a youth conference on political governance and advocacy for accountability.

The Summit provided a unique space for diverse stakeholders, including government officials, political parties, civil society organizations, development partners, youth, and marginalized groups, to explore the challenges and pathways for sustaining democracy in Liberia. With a focus on enhancing democratic dividends, promoting political accountability, and encouraging active citizen engagement, the event aimed at creating a conducive environment for nationwide conversations on policy and development.

A major outcome of the summit was an agenda/resolution developed and signed by all participants for democracy strengthening and sustainability in Liberia. The discussions also underscored the importance of bridging societal divides and fostering a sense of shared purpose among Liberians. H.E Jeremiah Kpang Koung, Vice President of the Republic of Liberia, diplomats and development partners, CSOs leaders, youth and women leaders, media experts, governance and democracy practitioners, lawyers etc. welcomed the summit, as it brought together stakeholders from different institutions and communities, and created stronger collaboration between actors with different priorities that normally would not engage with each other. The event brought together a total of 105 participants 34 females and 71 males, representing a broad spectrum of stakeholders from eight of Liberia's fifteen counties. High-profile attendees included the Vice President of Liberia, the Chair of the Public Account Committee of the Liberian Senate, the Chair of the Judiciary Committee of the House of Representatives, and key figures from the Liberia National Bar Association.

Figure 6: Summit for Democracy and Political Accountability
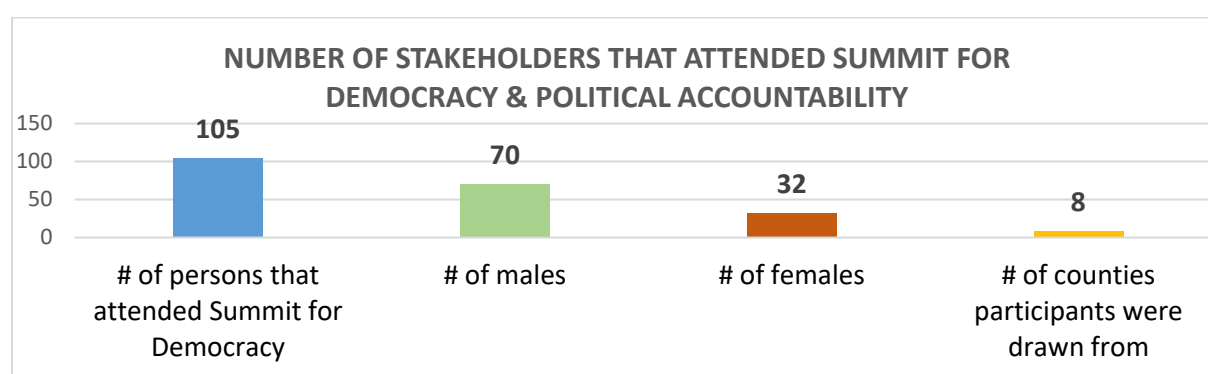
As a result of the conduct of the summit, most government institutions are now working together more often to share reports of their institutions with Naymote on the President's performance against commitments made during the campaign and after. This is a direct result of the recommendations made during the summit. Most government institutions are now positively responding to inquiries and developing a performance report detailing the president's development agenda and the party's campaign manifesto. Additionally, the joint public accounts, expenditures, and audits committee has started hosting public hearings on audit reports, using various media platforms and advancing their work on transparency and accountability in the public sector. Citizens are gradually building trust and waiting for concrete actions from the government to prosecute corrupt officials based on facts. Public conversations, coffee shops, radio stations, and media platforms can now access and discuss audit reports and the General Auditing Commission, (GAC) recognition has increased nationally and internationally.

Since the summit ended, civil society and several participants have been vocal in demanding more transparency, accountability, and openness from the government as well as a clearer role in their participation in governance. While the summit has the potential to become a permanent national forum, efforts are still needed to find additional resources to ensure that it remains relevant in the future. Particularly important is ensuring that the summit does not duplicate existing efforts and that it develops a space of its own.

# The Young Political Leadership School Africa, (YPLS Africa)

This reporting period covers the conduct of the eleventh cohort of the Young Political Leadership School Africa where 100 emerging leaders below the age of 35 from 8 African countries were trained from August 12-16, 2024, in Monrovia, Liberia. The trainees included African countries (Liberia, Nigeria, Sierra Leone and Uganda)

This year's cohort includes young politicians, activists, civic leaders, and civil society representatives. The week-long training included 16 intensive learning sessions led by ten international and national experts. The curriculum covered a wide range of topics crucial to political campaigns, political communication, electoral management, ethics and anti-corruption, gender in politics, ethical leadership, emotional intelligence, advocacy and networking, leadership in political parties, political ideology, and the Africa Agenda 2063. Notable facilitators including Omolara T. Balogun, Head of Policy Influencing and Advocacy at the West Africa Civil Society Institute in Ghana; Mr. Emmy Otim, Regional Manager for the Program for Young Politicians in Africa/Uganda; Dr. Hannah Issatta Sao-Kpato Macarthy, Minister of Water Resource and Sanitation of Sierra Leone; and Hon. Francis Ben

Kaifala, Commissioner of the Anti-Corruption Commission of Sierra Leone. Tanya A. Garnett, PhD, Associate Dean, Amos C. Sawyer College of Social Sciences and Humanities, University of Liberia, Senator Edwin M. Snowe Jr., Head of Delegation at the ECOWAS Parliament, and Michael Johannes, Elections and Political Processes Team-Lead, USAID Liberia, Angela Ferrer, Political Economic Administrative Assistant at the US Embassy, and S. Aaron Weah-Weah III, County Technical Lead/Project Manager IREX, etc.

Figure 7: Number of Young African Leaders Trained by YPLSA in 2024
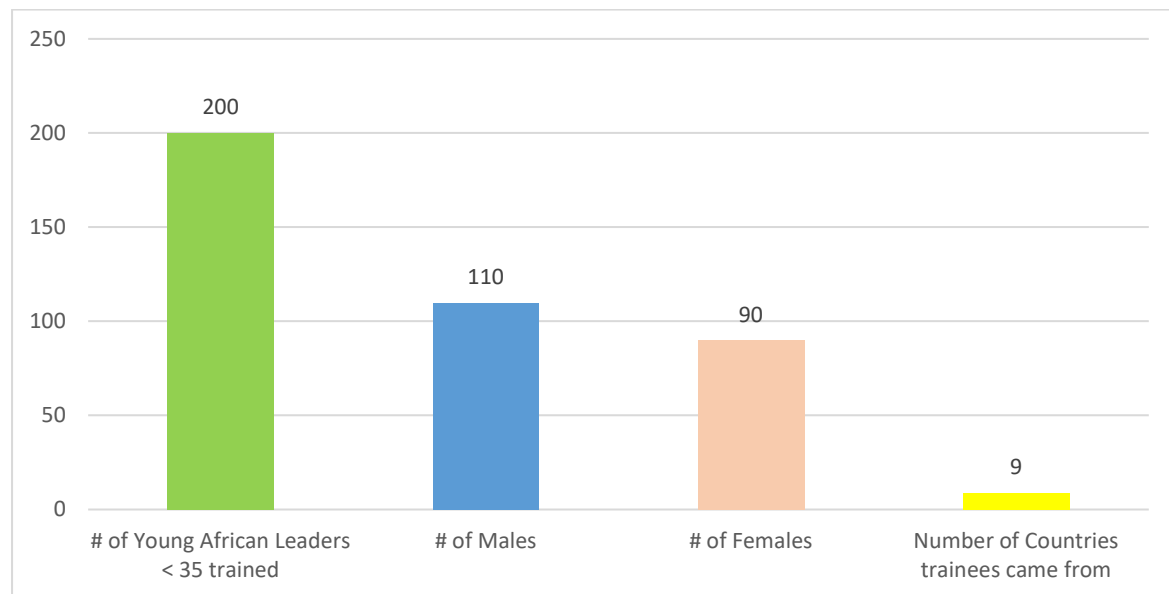
The training sought to raise a core of alumni who will actively engage in civic engagement events and increase youth, and women participation and representation. Additionally, the training endeavored to equip young leaders with the requisite knowledge, skills, and aptitudes to promote peace, create awareness of gender equality, and host community political organizing events promoting democracy and good governance. s.

The training was held under the theme: "Empower the Future: African Youth Leaders for Development, Peace, and Security". His Excellency Hon. Jeremiah Kpan Koung, delivered the keynote address and called on African youth to take charge of leadership and actively participate in shaping the future of the continent. He urged the youth to take ownership of their future, stating, "If the government can't, you must. You are the architects of your future. Give your all to correct the odds, and be competitive among your peers in other countries and on the global stage."

Additionally, the Ambassador of the United States to Liberia, Mark Toner, delivered a motivational statement that expressed confidence in Africa's potential and praised the spirit of its people.

"There are good, smart, and hardworking people here and across the continent, responsible citizens who have their country's best interests at heart and are willing to work hard – in whatever capacity – to achieve them. That indomitable human spirit is Africa's greatest resource."

The participants learned about the power of storytelling using evidence-data and technology tools, political campaign planning a step-by-step guide to winning, the importance of people-centered governance and democracy that can deliver dividends for all, emotional intelligence as an essential element in leadership, advocacy and networking, etc. The training sessions were facilitated by both national and international experts.

The YPLS Africa program has made significant strides in developing young leaders, with its alumni achieving notable political and leadership roles across Africa. Interestingly, 13 graduates from Nigeria and Liberia have shown ambition and capacity and competed for legislative and parliamentary positions. The program has successfully produced six (6) junior ministers in previous Liberian governments and currently boasts seven (7) junior ministers serving in the current administration.

Beyond Liberia, YPLS Africa's impact is evident across the continent. In Namibia, an alumna was elected as Assistant Mayor, demonstrating the program's influence on local governance. In Nigeria, two alumni were appointed as Senior Special Assistant and Executive Assistant Director in the office of the Senior Special Assistant on Citizenship.

Additionally, an alum from Ghana secured a seat in the Local Assembly Elections, further highlighting the program's success in nurturing leaders who are making tangible contributions to governance at various levels.

Diplomatic embassies in Liberia and regional authorities recognize the YPLS Africa program as a crucial platform for grooming young leaders in politics, and community service and fostering societal improvement. The Governor of Delta State, Nigeria, has acknowledged the program's impact by providing annual sponsorships for participants from his state. Additionally, the Vice President of Sierra Leone has demonstrated support for YPLS Africa alumni by facilitating the first-ever Mano River Union (MRU) summit on preventing electoral violence among young people, held in March 2022. This summit highlights the program's regional influence in promoting peace and responsible leadership.

Also, 20 alumni (10 males and 10 females) of the Young Political Leadership School Africa based in Liberia conducted several post-election engagements during the reporting period, including bus rides, door-to-door awareness on citizens' rights, roles, and responsibilities, and awareness of the amended drugs law of Liberia. Engagements were held across 30 communities within four program counties- Montserrado, Grand Bassa, Margibi, and Bomi. Alumni contributions reached and impacted a total of 8,900 citizens, they gained a deeper understanding of their roles and responsibilities as citizens, ways to hold government accountable, practical strategies to get involved with decision-making processes in their localities, and consequences of drug addiction. The majority of those reached were youth between the ages of 18-35 years.

Moreover, 9 legislative dialogues on the legislative agenda intended to foster legislative accountability were led by alumni in the project counties. In District 2, Margibi County, the alumni held a legislative dialogue with Representative Ivar K. Jones and his constituents. The dialogue created the platform for the lawmaker to discuss core issues surrounding his legislative agenda for the district. As a result of the dialogue, Hon. Jones promised his participants to craft an effective legislative agenda that supports the pattern of easy and timely reporting to constituents every year. Citizens at the dialogue promised to hold him accountable.

On the overall, the different sessions brought together a total of 467 participants (264 males, 203 females), including county officials, local leaders, youth and women leaders, community leaders, and people with disabilities.

Furthermore, 15 alumni (9 male and 6 female) from the YPLSA benefited from mentorship across various aspects of personal and professional development. The mentorship provided opportunities for alumni to develop specific skills relevant to their field or area of interest through online coaching sessions, practical advice, and constructive feedback. The

program honed their leadership and coaching skills, enhanced their ability to inspire and motivate others, and cultivated a culture of learning and development within their organizations, communities, and professional sojourn.

Media Engagement

Naymote continues to see the media as a vital partner in creating a more informed and engaged citizenry. By leveraging radio, Naymote is fostering a transparent and accountable governance environment that strengthens Liberia's democratic society. Additional initiatives were implemented to improve outcomes on component one.

To enhance the visibility of its programs and provide accurate information to Liberians on various government initiatives, Naymote partnered with five popular radio stations (OK FM 99.5, Radio Gbarnga 96.5, Radio Kergheamahn 94.5, Alternative Youth Radio 98.9, and Ableejay Radio 94.3) to air a one-hour weekly democracy show. Through the Democracy by Radio platform, these stations broadcast critical messages on democracy, accountability, transparency, justice, and human rights, helping to create a well-informed citizenry. The program also educates listeners on issues such as Supreme Court decisions,

the national budget, legislative performance, and the president's progress on campaign promises. The discussions focused on topics like the national development plan, audit reports, access to justice, and public health concern, providing citizens with a comprehensive understanding of governance.

The platform engages experts and professionals, including lawyers, lawmakers, civil society, and county service center representatives, who provide updates and educate the public on national and local issues. This has fostered safe spaces for citizens to express their views without fear. As a result, the program has had a tangible impact, promoting transparency and empowering citizens to demand accountability from their leaders.

In collaboration with the Bong County Council, the institution organized a daylong capacity-building training on the Local government Act (LGA) on February 24, 2024, for 11 journalists (8 males and 3 females) from various radio stations, including Radio Gbarnga FM 96.5 MHz, SuperBongese FM 104.4, Radio Paraclete FM 93.7 MHz, Premium FM 98.1 MHz, and Kwatekeh Radio. The Chairperson of the Bong County Council, Aaron Sackie Fenlah, facilitated session on the Administrative Regulation of the County Council. His presentation focused on the composition of the county council, its public information obligations to residents, qualification requirements for county support officers, and tenure for council members among others.

The training enhanced local stakeholders' understanding of the essence of the Local Government Act (LGA) and its role in enabling greater citizen participation in the governance process. The training significantly enhanced the understanding of 11 journalists in Bong about the LGA. As a result of the training, beneficiaries led radio conversations about the County Council and County Service Center at their respective radio stations to contribute to a more informed public discussion regarding governance decentralization in Liberia. The activities led to strengthened collaboration between local government structures, citizens, and media practitioners through awareness raising on services offered at the Bong County Service Center, the Local Government Act of 2018, and the Administrative Regulation for County Council.

"I am honored to have attended this insightful training today. For the first time, I have had the opportunity to learn about the Local Government Act of 2018 and the Administrative Regulation for County Council. I am going to my station and make use of my platform to ensure the knowledge reach a greater population," Rachel Karpee, a Reporter of SupperBongese Radio stated.

2.1.2 Inclusive Local Governance

This component of the program aims to educate communities about the Local Government Act (2018). It shows how the implementation of the Act could contribute to improved decision-making processes at the local level. Under this component, activities implemented are highlighted below.

Community awareness/dialogues on the County Service Center

Under this component of the program, the institution engaged with the community through community-level dialogues. Meanwhile, a three-day interactive community-level dialogue/town hall meeting on the County Service Center services was held with community residents in Gbarney, Wainsue, and Gbaota towns in Jorquelleh District # 3 in Bong County. Naymote collaborated with the Bong County Service Center to host the events. The dialogues enhanced community residents' understanding of the different services offered at the Bong County Service Center, feedback mechanisms in place to enhance effective service delivery at the Center, and addressed citizens' concerns regarding services at the Center. 75 community leaders and residents (36 males and 39 females) directly benefited from this initiative aimed at bridging the information gap between the community and the service center. Community members were able to voice

their concerns, ask questions, and share their experiences with accessing services at the service center.

"We have endeavored to educate citizens about our services, but the lack of support has undermined such initiatives. Today, with support from Naymote, we have been able to achieve this milestone; we are optimistic that this initiative will encourage citizens to utilize our services and boost revenue generation." Bong County Service Center Coordinator Jefferson Gbarnyan. Our interventions empowered hundreds of citizens to utilize the services offered at the Bong County Service Center. *For instance, Korto Tokpah, a petty trader in Wainsue Town, traveled to the Bong County Service Center in Gbarnga to register her business for the first time in over three years.*

This is evident through testimonials from people who benefited from our dialogues.

The Naymote's democracy by radio program is creating awareness about local governance. The media and citizen groups are demanding more accountability on the usage of social development funds, and local government officials are beginning to give greater weight to the concerns of women and young people when making decisions about the allocation of these funds especially in Bong, Bassa and Nimba counties where women are appointed as superintendents.

Naymote Supports Responsible and Efficient Local Governance in Liberia

In April 2024, Naymote conducted and released an Institutional and Operational Capacity Assessment of five County Service Centers (CSCs) in Margibi, Grand Bassa, Bong, Nimba, and Lofa Counties. The assessment involved interviews with five county coordinators to evaluate the institutional and operational capacity of the CSCs. Additionally, questionnaires were administered to 301 respondents to gather feedback on the quality of services accessed at the centers. This assessment provides valuable insights into the functionality and effectiveness of CSCs in delivering public services to citizens.

The assessment of the County Service Centers (CSCs) revealed their high relevance to citizens in rural areas, with 86% of respondents reporting contact with the centers in the past year. Although some centers only offer an average of 13 out of 21 services, the availability of services that were previously only accessible in Monrovia has significantly reduced transportation costs and the physical risks associated with long-distance travel. Additionally, 65.12% of respondents reported not giving bribes or gifts to obtain services, indicating that CSCs have made accessing services more straightforward and less burdensome for citizens.

The assessment of the County Service Centers (CSCs) in April 2024 showed that communication with the CSCs was relevant, as stated by the CSCs Coordinators, and that the responses from end users were in line with the center's recommendations. Eighty-six

per cent, (86%) of those surveyed claim they had interacted with the service centers in the past year. Compared to men (42%), more women (44%) contacted the service centers.

Naymote has observed records of the County Service Centers that more women are making use of the services provided by the County Service Centers, especially the traditional marriage certificates that help to legalize unions in which women are entitled to benefits, assessment of the county service center in April 2024.

2.1.3 Institutional Strengthening

Component 3 of the DAP is dedicated to increasing Naymote's institutional capabilities. The objective is to strengthen the institution's internal processes and systems and make them robust to facilitate the smooth and effective implementation of the institution's strategic plan until 2025. In 2023, PricewaterhouseCoopers (Liberia) LLC assessed NAYMOTE's internal organizational capacity. The evaluation identified a few systemic flaws and suggested fixes. During the year under review, the following activities were carried out in accordance with the recommendation:

- o The Institution's Protection Plan developed
- o Hard copies of the institution's annual report were produced
- o Training sessions were conducted for procurement, finance, and programs staff to understand and adhere to internal policies and programming.
- o Retreat for program staff to review annual work and institutional policies conducted
- o Fundraising plan and sustainability strategy developed

2.2 Results/Achievements per Program Component

The activity played a pivotal role in advancing the overall project objective in several measurable ways. This section of the report explores the activities and their respective outcomes, with results highlighted as accomplishments achieved in year two. Each achievement is captured under one of the three program components presented below.

2.2.1 Component One (1): Political Accountability Results/Achievements

In its second year, the Democracy Advancement Program (DAP) delivered measurable impacts across multiple areas, advancing political accountability, civic engagement, and legislative performance in Liberia.

1. Promoting Political Accountability through the President Meter Project (PMP)

- The President Meter Project (PMP) has emerged as a critical tool for evaluating government performance and fostering political accountability.
- **Key Results:**
    - The release of the first 100-day report of President Joseph Nyumah Boakai's administration sparked nationwide discussions and media coverage, prompting the national legislature to call for an audit of the 55th legislature.
    - The January–August 2024 PMP report influenced citizens and opposition parties to demand greater public service delivery. This pressure contributed to the allocation of $378.15 million (51.2% of the national budget) to
    - President Boakai's AREST agenda (Agriculture, Roads, Rule of Law, Education, Sanitation, and Tourism).
    - The PMP is widely referenced by political parties, civil society organizations, international NGOs, and diplomatic missions, such as the U.S., Swedish, and Irish embassies, and is frequently cited in local and international media.

2. Strengthening Legislative Processes

- The second publication of the Legislative Digest highlighted improvements in legislative information management, including timely documentation, tracking of attendance, and committee work reporting.
- **Impact:**
    - Speaker of the House, Hon. Cllr. J. Fonati Koffa, engaged with Naymote on recommendations to improve legislative performance, promising reforms such as a functional website and a legislative audit by the end of 2024.

3. Empowering Civic Engagement and Accountability

- Town hall meetings empowered citizens with tools to hold leaders accountable. Participants are now actively questioning elected officials and contributing to greater transparency in governance.

4. Fostering Youth Leadership through YPLS Africa

- The Youth Political Leadership School (YPLS) Africa achieved remarkable outcomes:
    - 186 alumni are now actively engaged in electoral and political activities, surpassing the target of 150 alumni by 2025.
    - Notable Appointments: Five alumni (3 women, 2 men) were appointed as junior ministers in the government, two are serving as legislative staffers, and six are interning at the Legislature.
    - Alumni have conducted 20 civic engagement initiatives and are participating in ongoing mentorship programs.

5. Building Collaboration for Democracy

- A Democracy Summit convened diverse stakeholders, including Vice President Jeremiah Kpang Koung, diplomats, CSO leaders, youth and women leaders, and democracy practitioners.
- Outcome: A resolution for strengthening democracy was developed and endorsed, fostering collaboration among actors who traditionally had limited engagement.

6. Enhancing Public Awareness on Governance

- Capacity-building training on the Local Government Act equipped journalists with the knowledge to lead informed radio discussions on decentralization, increasing public awareness of the County Council and Service Centres' roles.

Actual Performance on Component One (1) Baselines

Analyzing the key performance and outcome indicators for year two of the DAP shows that the project reached a total of 3,753 comprising 1,753 males and 2,000 females in the five project counties. The figure shows the level of interest in the program and the efforts exerted to meet the target by the end of the project.

Meanwhile, the reporting period recorded the indicators related to different publications at the time. The reporting period recorded the completion and publication of one report on the President Meter Project (PMP), two policy briefs on health and education, one legislative digest report, one summit report on democracy and accountability, and one legislative engagement guide for advocacy in Liberia. However, there were additional results captured in the below bullet points:

o Several YPLS Africa alumina actively involved in electoral and political activities disaggregated by gender. The 2021 baseline is 45. In 2023 the DAP recorded a total of 93 YPLS Africa alumni who are actively involved in electoral and political activities.

o There are 7 junior ministers currently serving in the Liberian government while in Namibia, an alumna was elected as Assistant Mayor. In Nigeria, two alumni were appointed as Senior Special Assistant and Executive Assistant Director in the office of the Senior Special Assistant on Citizenship. Additionally, an alum from Ghana secured a seat in the Local Assembly Elections, further highlighting the program's success in nurturing leaders who are making tangible contributions to governance at various levels.

Additionally, twelve (12) alumni worked in the youth elections data center and utilized mobile technology to increase voter turnout during the elections, twenty-five (25) female alumni were assigned with women candidates to boost their campaign through the women's campaign fellows program, they promoted voters education and awareness and encouraged female leadership and adverting electoral violence, 30 alumni led robust CVE bus ride campaign to increase voters

turnout, while 6 persons worked on different political parties campaign teams. The 2021 baseline (45 persons) and a change of 93 alumni in year 1, brings the current total YPLS Africa alumina actively involved in electoral and political activities disaggregated by gender to 138 persons. This means a lot more has been done to achieve the program target of training 150 alumni youth with a 35% female representation by 2025, and the program target could be surpassed.

o The total number of youth trained at the YPLS Africa for year two increased by 100 participants. This baseline has seen an increase of 100 young people, comprising trained in year 1. With a 2021 baseline of 800 and a change of 200 and currently 100. The current total youth trained now stands at 1,130. This means the program target of training 1,130 youth with a 45% female representation is not only attainable but could well be surpassed.

2.2.2 Component Two (2): Inclusive Governance Results/Achievements

The DAP was able to hold a capacity-building training on the Local Government Act for journalists, it was an eye opener for them and prompted them to lead radio conversations about the County Council and County Service Center at their respective radio stations to contribute to a more informed public discussion regarding governance and decentralization in Liberia. Additionally, radio talk shows were conducted across the program counties. These meetings and radio engagements led to intense advocacy for the full implementation of the LGA and better service delivery at the county service center.

Under this component in year two, the institution conducted a survey on the county service centers in the five project locations. The DAP was able to hold consultative meetings with CSOs on the Local Government Act and staff of the county service centers. Consultative meetings were followed by advocacy for the establishment of county councils in the project areas. These conversations and advocacies are ongoing and we hope to report more actual results during the next report.

Actual Performance on Component Two (2) Baselines

Achievement on the number of women and youth involved within local governance structures and decision-making processes was realized.

The 2021 baseline for women and youth involved within local governance structures and decision-making processes was 0, with a target of reaching 20 women and youth by 2025. In year two 2024, the DAP recorded a total of 75 community leaders (36 Males, 39 Females) reached through awareness on the County Service Center and 11 journalists (8 Males, 3 Females) reached through training on the Local Government Act. This indicates

that to date, we have surpassed the program target of 20 women and youth involved within local governance structures and decision-making processes, thus reaching 86 local residents comprising of women and youth. By the end of year two, more than 186 women and youth will be highly involved in local governance structures and decision-making processes at the local levels.

The 2021 baseline for The DAP also recorded 4 billboards that have been erected so far in Bong County; the remaining 8 billboards will be erected before the end of year three. Under component two, the DAP conducted interactive community-level dialogue/town hall meetings on the County Service Center services which enhanced community residents' understanding of the different services offered at the Bong County Service Center. This helped counter misinformation about additional fees and bribes citizens perceived to be paying at the county service center.

2.2.3 Component Three (3): Institutional Capacity Strengthening Results/Achievements

Under component three, noticeable improvements were recorded in the administrative, technical/program, and financial management sections of the institution.

The institution began collaboration and networking with the Program for Young Politicians in Africa (PYPA) to help enhance the YPLS Africa program through shared learning, and curriculum development amongst others.

Two (2) program and M&E staff were trained in fact-checking. The training covered introduction to fact-checking, differentiating between misinformation and disinformation, principles of fact-checking, fact-checking techniques, cross-referencing, digital Verification and using online tools and techniques to verify images, videos, and social media content, analyzing data and statistics for accuracy and reliability, fact-checking practice, fact-checking ethics and standards, tools and resources for fact-checkers and introduction to fact-checking organizations and platforms. The staff who benefited from this training replicated it at the institution national office in Monrovia.

Actual Performance on Component Three (3) Baselines

Under component three (3), some progress was made. As can be seen below, the program helped achieve the overall goals and yielded outcomes on the following indicators.

Within its internal governance, NAYMOTE provided compelling evidence of the application of democratic principles and ideals. The institution fully utilized its gender, financial management, human resources, procurement, and anti-corruption policies which was updated during year one of the program. The institution senior management and program/project staff adhered to its M&E policy and best practice, coupled with proper

storage and documentation of records. The institution has a functional board of directors as its top decision-making body.

The 2021 baseline for number of Naymote staffs trained nationally and internationally is 3, and in 2023 (4) finance staffers were trained locally in QuickBooks and financial management. With a 2025 target of 7, and 2024 accomplishment of additional (2) program and M&E staff trained in fact checking, the project is well on-track to meet this target. On the overall, total of 6 staff have benefited from trainings locally. This is a great progress towards the overall target.

Number of partnership and joint actions taken internationally (training, dialogues): The institution began collaboration and networking with the Program for Young Politicians in Africa (PYPA), as part of this collaboration there will be shared learning between both institutions, while the PYPA will provide technical support to YPLS during the development of the YPLS curriculum.
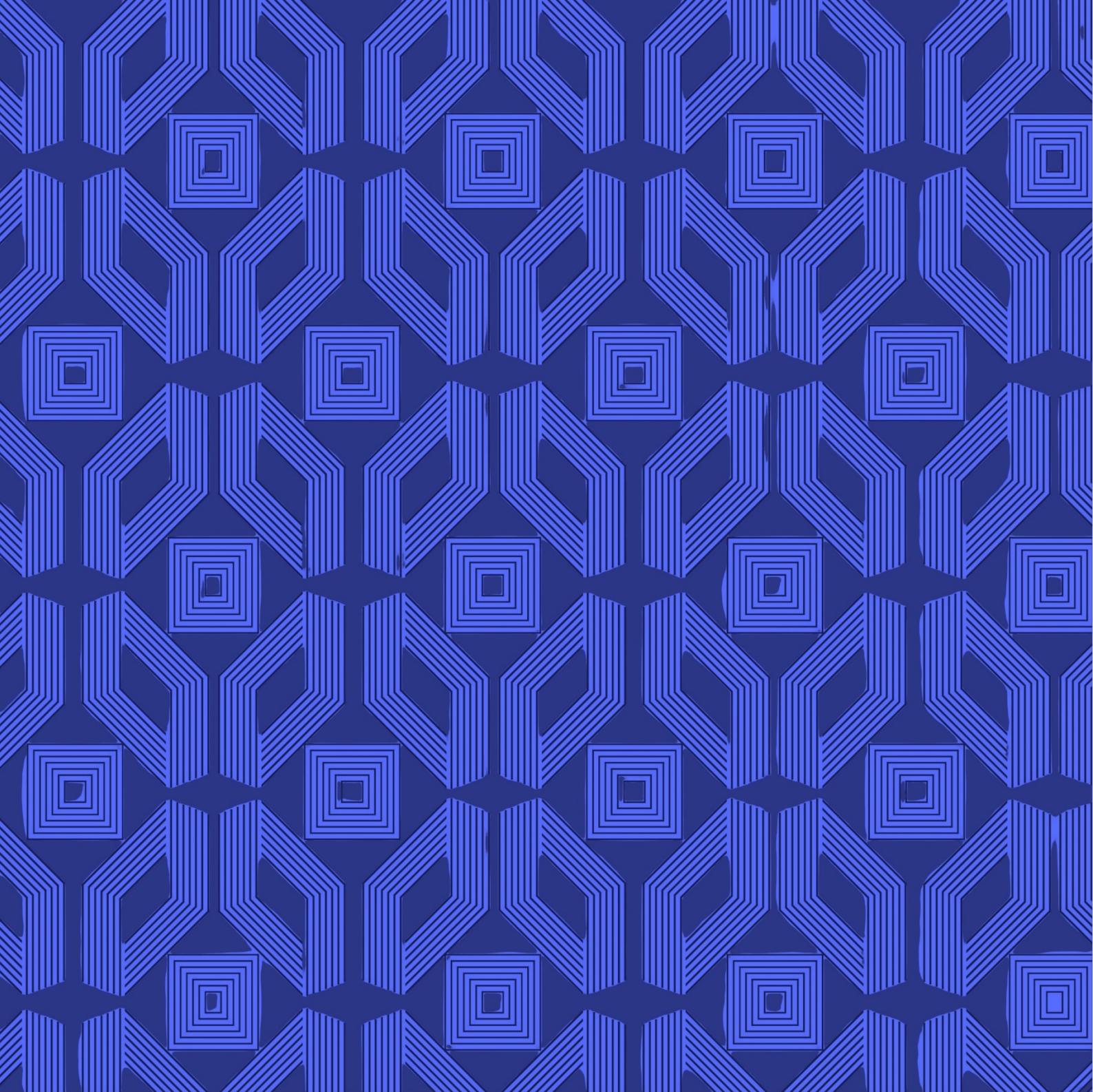
3 | CHALLENGES **4** | RECOMENDATIONS **5** | INSTITUTIONAL PROFILE OF NAYMOTE

3.0 Challenges

- Officials of the Unity Party and ministers in the government perceived the report as dangerous and think the institution is supported by the opposition which is not real.
- The secrecy of the government to release information to the public, limited official websites of government to access information about the working of the government, lack of legislative openness and lack of performance report of the executive at the legislature as required by law, etc., remains consistent.
- Limited funding for the inclusion of other key project staff. For example, the program manager of YPLS Africa and the procurement officer are both key to the implementation of the project.
- Issuance of threats to the institution by supporters of the government as the political accountability report doesn't favour the ruling party and has been used by the opposition.

4.0 Recommendation

- Provide support for the conduct of briefings meetings with government officials, and other stakeholders before the report's release to provide context, answer questions, and emphasize the report's neutral stance clearly stating how the data are collected, collated, and reported so as to build trust and reduce the level of misinformation.

- The published or compiled promises should be sent in an official letter to the Executive Mansion, informing the elected president that those promises will be tracked while they in office.

- We recommend a University Dialogue on Political Accountability and Leadership to increase university students knowledge on political accountability, qualities of good accountable governance and provide a platform to hold open discussions for accountable government. At the platform report of the president's performance will be discussed, the method, findings, and the importance of the program.

5.0 Institutional Profile of Naymote

Naymote Partners for Democratic Development is a mission-driven organization; it was established in 2001 by student leaders and social activists. Since its founding, the institution has been engaged with promoting political accountability, advancing principles of good democratic governance, rule of law, civic engagement, and youth empowerment. The institution has trained some of the most prominent young politicians in Africa.

The institution believes that a purposeful and effective civil society is needed to set the national policy agenda, stimulate sound and healthy grassroots responses to governance issues, and influence the uneven power dynamics that characterize the relationship between Liberia's citizens and government.

The main goal of this engagement is to ensure elected leaders are more accessible, responsible, and accountable to the electorates. The organization has advocated for the capacity enhancement of local leaders to strengthen their effectiveness in the delivery of essential government services. It has also advocated for increasing the participation of both youth and women in various decision-making processes.

The institution has two offices located in Montserrado and Bong counties. Twenty full-time staff and several volunteers working out of these offices coordinate programs across Liberia. The institution's Strategic Plan (SP) sets the overarching direction for programming and operations. The current efforts are focused on three priority thematic areas that emerged from strategic sessions with staff and board members. The thematic areas articulated in the strategic plan are **Political Accountability, Youth Leadership Development, and Local Government Administration Strengthening**. In addition to the SP, the institution is guided by several internal policies including gender, financial management, procurement, human resources, M&E, and a strategic and communication plan. There is an active Board of Directors that constitutes the senior leadership. The Board consists of seven (7) members drawn from diverse backgrounds and is gender inclusive. This body makes major decisions through an active Board of Directors.

Media Links

Liberia: https://frontpageafricaonline.com/news/naymote-empowers-communities-to-monitor-governance-commitments/
Liberia: https://frontpageafricaonline.com/news/liberia-naymotes-latest-president-meter-report-reveals-boakai-fulfills-only-3-of-119-campaign-promises/
Liberia: https://frontpageafricaonline.com/news/liberia-celebrating-democracy-naymote-event-highlights-youth-engagement-and-key-democratic-principles/

Liberia: https://inquirernewspaper.com/naymote-to-host-11th-cohort-of-100-emerging-leaders

Liberia: https://frontpageafricaonline.com/news/liberia-naymote-calls-for-full-scale-audit-of-legislature-amid-launch-of-mid-year-report/

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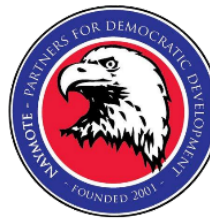
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APPROVED RESULTS FRAMEWORK: DEMOCRACY ADVANCEMENT PROGRAM
Naymote Partners for Democratic Development
Dated: July 21, 2023

	Indicator	Baseline (2021)	Target (2025)	Means of Verification	Risks/ Assumptions	Comments
Outcome 1: Citizens, especially women and youth in selected counties are better informed and active in making demands for improved service delivery and for accountability of elected officials on elections campaign promises in Liberia	# of citizens and counties attending forums/meetings on political accountability disaggregated by gender	2045	3,145 40% female	attendance sheets, meeting reports	Limited access to information

Increase requests for copies of the reports

Inadequate support or resources

Limited civic engagement and participation

High interest of women and youth to engage in politics

Human rights defenders' risk | 3,753 people have attended forums or gatherings on political responsibility; 2,000 of these people are women, and 1,753 are men. An increase in the program's significance. |
| | # of reports published on political accountability plus the level of feedback from citizens and key stakeholders on the reports | 5 | 14 | Hard copies of reports, online links for published reports, Naymote websites, online and print media on the report (Newspapers) | | There have been ten reports on political accountability released, including three on the president's performance, two on legislative accountability, three policy briefs, one on democracy summit, and one on the County Service Centers assessment. |
| | # of YPLSA alumina actively involved in electoral and political activities disaggregated by gender | 45 | 150 35% female | Records of YPLSA alumni engaged in electoral activities, pictures, reports, and media reports on YPLSA (social media, radio print media), Names of YPLS Alumni as contesting in the 2023 election | | An active number of 186 YPLS Africa alumni participated in political and electoral activities. 13 served and serving as junior ministers of governments in Liberia and Nigeria, 12 alumni ran for political office, and many others organized civic engagement activities, civic education programs, and election observation roles. ^ served as legislative interns. |

	# of youth disaggregated by sex trained at the YPLSA has increased with diverse backgrounds and countries.	830	1130 45% female?	Attendance sheets, training reports, pictures, the application database and number of countries.		A total of 1,130 emerging leaders have received training through YPLS Africa, surpassing the baseline of 830. This ensures that the program remains relevant to participants throughout Africa. The cohort 11 saw an increased of 52% women.
Outcome 2: Citizens are more aware of the operations of the County Service Centers and Local government is more responsive to the needs of citizens, especially women and youth within selected counties	# of billboards erected in targeted project counties with information about the CSC	0	12	Contract, receipts, pictures and CSCs records of services provided.	Lack of resources and logistics to the CSC hinder services offer to citizens	Four billboards with details on the services offered at the county service centers were put up.
	# of perception survey done and the report distributed to key stakeholders.	0	6	Completed survey responses, findings report and feedbacks from social media posts.	Limited support for the CSC and lack of political will to implement the Local Government Act and Revenue Cost Sharing Law.	One assessment on the quality of services offered by the county service centers was evaluated, as well as the opinions of the public regarding the services.
	# of women and youth involved within local governance structures and decision-making processes	0	20	Meeting minutes, reports, records or photographs		75 individuals were recorded by the program, comprising 36 men, 39 women, and young people working in local government institutions, including three female superintendents in the counties of Bong, Nimba, and Grand Bassa.

Outcome 3: Naymote has increased capacity and effective governance to accomplish its strategic plan for 2020-2025 and enhance organizational effectiveness to advance/impact democratic governance in Liberia and the ECOWAS sub-region	Naymote demonstrates strong evidence for applying democratic principles and values within its internal governance. Naymote social media and website provides relevant contents and strong engagement with youth, student researchers and the public.	0	1	Standardized procurement, gender, financial management, human resource, anti-corruption, board of director, M/E policies, records, and program are in place to guide the institution operations.	Sustainable support and staff's turnover. Partnership with government and partners. Ability to attract competent and skillful staff Closing of the civic space and bad governmental regulatory unwillingness to work with Naymote	With a strong board of directors and internal governance, Naymote has created policies that oversee its daily operations. The organization made full use of its anti-corruption, procurement, human resources, gender, and financial management policies, all of which were revised in the first year of the program.
	# of Naymote staffs trained national and internationally,	3	7			Nine staff members' capacity was expanded, including two Program and M&E staff members who were trained in fact-checking, three procurement management staff members, and four staff members who participated in further national and international capacity building initiatives.
	# of partnership and joint actions taken internationally (training, dialogues), etc.	2	6	Setup an active M/E framework to track, document or reports progress made towards systems audit action plan Analytics data from social media platforms, analysis of followers, likes, shares, comments, and engagement. Reports, photos, invitation, agreements, certificates, etc,	Violence free society and sustainable partnership to implement the strategic plan.	Compared to 176,000 users in 2023, the institution's Facebook sites, YPLS Africa and Naymote Liberia, witnessed remarkable interaction in 2024, reaching a combined total of 404,000 users, with over 30% of them being female. Their content's reach and citizen involvement indicate a growing interest in democratic transparency and participation.

	Naymote has a mid-term review of its Strategic Plan and updates when needed	0	6	Attendance records, review program guide, facilitators and list of action taken towards achieving the SP.		The midterm review has been rescheduled for year three of the program.
	Naymote completed and publish institutional financial and system audit reports	0	3	Agreements, MoUs, or official letters/emails exchanged between organizations.		The organization finished the system and financial audits and sent the results to SIDA. A plan of action was formulated, communicated to SIDA, and implementation ongoing
	Naymote has a resource mobilization plan developed for its sustainability	0	1	Copy of the mobilization plan, actions taken towards mobilization of funds, annual institution's reports, task completion reports		The organization has created and refined its fundraising strategy and resource mobilization plan.
	Naymote update its Gender Policy including action against SEA and strength its implementation	0	1	Approved gender policy and action plan + budget resources for the implementation of action plan exists		Naymote has revised her finance, procurement, and communication rules in addition to their gender policy, which now includes activities SEA.
	Unlimited power system (solar system) installed	2		Procurement bids, contract signed and system installed		Both national and regional offices have uninterrupted solar systems installed, which aids in the execution of the program.

ANNUAL PROGRAM REPORT 2024 FOR THE DEMOCRACY ADVANCEMENT PROGRAM (DAP)

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