

# NEWS LETTER









October, 2025 Edition

## BUILDING A CULTURE OF SOCIAL ACCOUNTABILITY IN LIBERIA WITH UN SUPPORT



## **HEADLINES**

## SAFE HOME IN GBARPOLU

Through CAAT advocacy, Gbarpolu County secured US\$20,000 to build its first safe home for survivors of rape and sexual violence. This milestone, supported by Naymote's accountability initiative, marks a major step toward protecting women and girls.

## BRIDGE RESTORED IN GRAND BASSA

Citizen monitors in Grand Bassa County led efforts that revived the rehabilitation of the Grand Bassa University bridge, improving safety for hundreds of students and showing how civic action drives real community change.

## **RADIO TALK SHOW IN MARGIBI**

In Margibi County, CAAT advocacy inspired local leaders to start a community talk show on Radio Kakata, giving citizens direct access to information on projects and strengthening transparency in local governance.

#### BUILDING A CULTURE OF SOCIAL ACCOUNTABILITY IN LIBERIA WITH UN SUPPORT

Naymote Partners for Democratic Development has emerged as a leading force in promoting citizen-led governance and accountability in Liberia. With support from UNDP Liberia and funding from the United Nations Peacebuilding Fund, Naymote is implementing the transformative initiative, "Empowering Citizens and Communities to Foster Social Accountability and Transparency in Governance and Public Service Delivery."

In just three months, this initiative has reshaped community engagement and transparency across all 15 counties, demonstrating that when citizens are equipped with the right tools, knowledge, and confidence, governance becomes inclusive, responsive, and effective.



## EMPOWERING CITIZENS, STRENGTHENING INSTITUTIONS

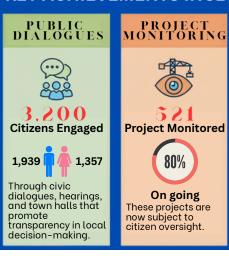
Through the training and deployment of 75 Social Accountability Monitors (SAMs), 40% of whom are women, Naymote has amplified the voices of grassroots communities in policy spaces traditionally dominated by political elites.

These monitors work through County Accountability and Advocacy Teams (CAATs), enabling direct citizen participation in public resource management and budget oversight.

"When development begins with communities, transparency becomes culture, accountability becomes practice, and democracy becomes lived experience."



## **KEY ACHIEVEMENTS INCLUDE:**





Digital innovation has played a key role in this progress. Platforms like Comcare, community dashboards, and WhatsApp groups enable monitors to gather real-time data on service delivery, manage expenditures, and share updates through community radio and social media. This interactive approach has shifted citizen participation from mere observation to active leadership.

As Project Manager of the Social Accountability Project at UNDP, I've witnessed firsthand how our framework transformed passive beneficiaries into active watchdogs, strengthening transparency and rebuilding trust between communities and local authorities. By convening multi-stakeholder forums that bridged civil society, government, and development partners, we laid the groundwork for inclusive governance reforms that are both locally owned and nationally relevant.

Trokon Bryant, Project Manager, Social Accountability Project, UNDP

## TURNING ADVOCACY INTO REAL CHANGE ACROSS LIBERIA, THE IMPACT IS TANGIBLE:

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In Gbarpolu County, CAAT advocacy contributed to securing US\$20,000 to establish the first safe home for survivors of rape and sexual violence, a landmark victory for women and girls.

In Gbarma Town, CAAT efforts contributed to reigniting the construction of the long-abandoned Gbarma Health Center, which had been dormant since 2017.

In recognition of their contributions, there is increased visibility of the workings of the CAAT members who were invited to the dedication ceremony of the newly constructed solar-powered water facilities in Gbarpolu County, where the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) was highly commended for its support.

In Margibi County, CAAT's advocacy and stakeholder engagement prompted district and county leadership to establish a community talk show on Radio Kakata, designed to regularly inform citizens about ongoing projects and developments within the county.

In Grand Bassa County, civic monitoring led to the rehabilitation of the Grand Bassa University bridge, improving safety for hundreds of students.

In Lofa County, CAAT tracked the delivery of essential drugs to Tellewoyan Memorial Hospital, ensuring transparency in distribution.

In Maryland County, citizen oversight of development funds prompted District 2 Representative Hon. Anthony Williams to publicly commend CAAT, Naymote, and UNDP for "enforcing accountability on the different jobs we do as politicians."

In Bomi County, CAAT members' visits and advocacy helped verify the completion of the new annex building at Malama Public School in Klay District, providing improved learning spaces for local students.

In Rivercess County, CAAT members monitored, and stakeholder engagement raised awareness about the Jeweh Clinic, a project valued at USD 93,000, with 30% contribution from the Pit Sawyer Association and 70% financed by the Government of Liberia

In Bong County, CAAT members monitored and media engagement created citizens oversight on the implementation of a new annex at Kollieta-Wola Elementary School, value at USD 95,000 project.





## SUSTAINING MOMENTUM FOR DEMOCRATIC REFORM

The success of Naymote's CAAT initiative proves that inclusive governance is not just a vision, it is a reality when citizens are empowered to lead. By uniting local monitors, county administrations, and communities under a shared accountability framework, Liberia is experiencing a democratic renewal rooted in openness, trust, and collective responsibility.

## A NEW ERA OF OPEN GOVERNANCE

By fostering collaboration among citizens, county officials, civil society, and the media, Naymote has embedded a culture of accountability within Liberia's governance framework. For the first time, ordinary Liberians are actively participating in county council hearings, reviewing budget allocations, and demanding transparent reporting from their local governments.

Beyond data collection and budget tracking, this movement has sparked a broader civic awakening. Citizens are now shaping local debates, scrutinizing multimillion-dollar projects, such as the controversial US\$10 million Presidential Villa in Lofa County, and holding leaders to their promises.



## **ABOUT THE PROJECT**

This initiative is funded by the UN Peacebuilding Fund and facilitated by UNDP Liberia in partnership with Naymote Partners for Democratic Development. It marks a significant milestone in community-driven governance and reflects Liberia's commitment to inclusive, transparent, and accountable development.









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