

MONTSERRADO COUNTY RECONCILIATION AND ACTION PLAN 2024



Montserrado County is a county in the northwestern portion of Liberia. One of 15 counties that comprise the first-level of administrative division in the nation, it is composed of seventeen electoral districts. As of the 2008 Census, it had a population of 1,118,241, making it the most populous county in Liberia. The area of the county measures 1,912.7 square kilometres (738.5 sq mi), the smallest in the country. Bensonville serves as the capital.

Created in 1847 at the foundation of the country, the county is the oldest in Liberia and is bordered by Bomi County to the west, and Margibi County to the east. The southern part of Montserrado lies on the Atlantic Coast.

**Supporting the Government of Liberia
Strategic Roadmap for National Peacebuilding,
Healing, and Reconciliation**

Forward

The Montserrado County’s five-year reconciliation roadmap and Action Plan (2019-2024) is a road map with the purpose of supporting peace-building and reconciliation efforts in the county. The document was formulated through an inclusive and participatory process representing the needs and aspirations of the people of the county in pursuit of peaceful co-existence and sustainable development.

It is my ardent hope and expectation that this document which is aligned to other national instruments and frameworks like the National Reconciliation Roadmap, Peacebuilding Plan and Pro-Poor Agenda for Prosperity and Development (PAPD), will provide the foundation for the development of a national policy and program on achieving reconciliation and healing in Liberia.

It is upon this background that I pledge the county’s support and by extension, the national government’s commitment in the implementation of this plan, despite competing needs and limited resources. I therefore call upon all local, and national stakeholders, as well as international partners, to embrace this document and use it as the roadmap for the pursuit of county reconciliation which will have a ripple effect at the national level.

Hon. Florence S. Brandy
Superintendent
Montserrado County

Acknowledgement

Naymote Partners for Democratic Development is profoundly grateful to the peace-loving and resilient people of Montserrado County, especially the participants and key stakeholders who, despite their busy schedules and other obligations, made time to actively participate in all of the three phases of the process that led to the formulation of the five-year Action Plan.

The institution is also thankful to the United Nations System, particularly the United Nations Development Program (UNDP), for the financial resources to carry out this important project that is necessary for the consolidation of peace. The institution is thankful to the Ministry of Internal Affairs, through Liberia Peacebuilding Office, for the partnership and support.

The pivotal role played by the leadership of the county at all levels is much appreciated. Their cooperation led to this successful outcome of the project. Naymote remains grateful to the leadership for their committed demonstration to transformational leadership of the county.

We recognize the role of our experienced and dynamic facilitator, Atty. Oscar Bloh, who expeditiously facilitated the district and county level forum that led to the development of the plan. We are grateful to him for his level of professionalism.

Naymote expresses gratitude to all members of the County Steering Committee (CSC) who were instrumental and benevolent in planning and organizing all the meetings and dialogues of this intervention.

Last, but not the least; we are internally grateful to our hard-working staff and volunteers who contributed one way or another in planning and implementing the field-based activities. To them, we say, a “Big Thank You.”

List of Acronyms & Abbreviations

CA	County Authority
CAP	County Action Plan
CBA	County Business Association
CDA	County Development Agenda
CDSC	County Development Steering Committee
CSOs	Civil Society Organizations
CSC	County Service Center
CSDF	County Social Development Fund
CSC	County Steering Committee
DDC	District Development Council
GOL	Government of Liberia
MIA	Ministry of Internal Affairs
PAPD	Pro Poor Agenda for Prosperity and Development
PBO	Peacebuilding Office
PBSO	United Nations Peacebuilding Support Office
SCORE	Social Cohesion and Reconciliation Index
NAYMOTE	Naymote Partners for Democratic Development
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNMIL	United Nations Mission in Liberia
UNW	United Nations Women

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1.0 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

This five-year Peacebuilding, Reconciliation Roadmap and County Action Plan (CAP) provide a framework for the consolidation of peace, and to foster peaceful co-existence and enhance development in Montserrado County. The document harnesses previous and current peacebuilding efforts in the county and lays out a detailed strategy to achieve county level reconciliation through inclusive dialogues involving diverse stakeholders. The document is also aligned with and supports the government's reconciliation framework outlined in the Pro-Poor Agenda for Prosperity and Development (PAPD).

The five-year CAP was developed through a 'bottom-up' approach involving broad-based consultations in five (5) administrative districts in the county. The first level of generating information was the community dialogues, followed by district level forums that culminated into a county level plenary.

During these consultations, key stakeholders who participated in the dialogues were ordinary citizens, Local Government Authorities (LGA), representing different line ministries, as well as the Coordinator of the County Service Center (CSC). Other local authorities included the Superintendent, District Commissioners, and traditional and religious leaders as well as representatives from Civil Society Organizations (CSOs), youth, students and women groups, and media practitioners.

In order to engender local ownership, a County Steering Committee (CSC) was established, comprising eight (8) persons headed by the Office of the Superintendent and most from the local government administration, one representative each from youth and civil society groups. The CSC in consultation with NAYMOTE's central office in Monrovia planned, organized, and conducted all the consultations for the information gathering processes which led to the development of this document.

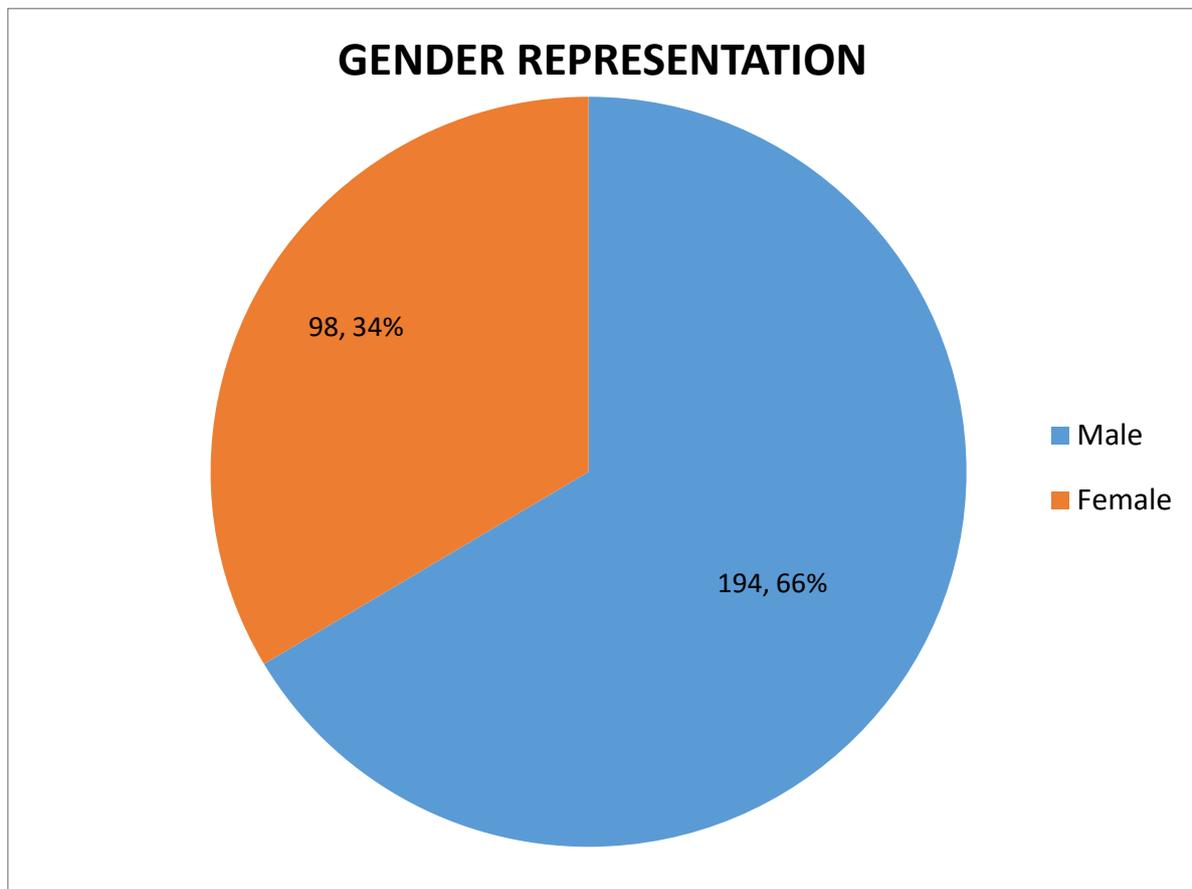
The reconciliation roadmap has the following specific objectives:

- To promote peaceful co-existence and mutual understanding amongst residents of the county irrespective of their religious, social, economic and political affiliations;
- To strengthen local capacities for conflict resolution, peace and reconciliation;
- To promote accountability and transparency in the management of the county's resources for its betterment that of and all its residents;
- To increase adequate representation of diverse groups in the country's decision-making processes.

Drivers of conflict in the county were grouped into five (5) categories:

- Rule of law/security: limited access to justice
- Social cohesion (divisions due to intra and inter communal land disputes
- Violence Against Women and Girls, Sexual Gender Base Violence
- Mismanagement of resources (County Social Development Funds);
- Economy (unemployment and steady increase in the prices of basic commodities)

The Advancing Reconciliation through Legislative Reforms and Civic Engagement project was designed to be helpful in setting the stage for genuine reconciliation, and civic engagement. The project helped to generate information and data that feeds into the development of the County Reconciliation Action Plan 2024, while framing actions which could consolidate peace in Liberia.



2.0 INTRODUCTION

Liberia remains a fragile state despite the conduct of three successive democratic elections (2005, 2011, and 2017) and support from its international development partners that supported the country's transition from war to recovery and development. The country's fragility is deeply rooted in its history and current experience of social, economic, and political exclusion, inequalities related to resources including land. These factors combined have reproduced and reinforced divisions in various forms thereby undermining social cohesion. This makes the promotion of national reconciliation a major priority if the country's development efforts are to be sustained.

The previous government, under President Ellen Sirleaf, recognized that despite gains made in other sectors, her government did not do enough to promote national reconciliation. This recognition was contained in her last annual address delivered on January 23, 2017 to the 53rd National Legislature of the Republic of Liberia. She asserted: *“Let me say, straight out, two areas have continued to pose major challenges for our administration: corruption and reconciliation.”* She further stated: *“Our country's long struggle for national reconciliation has its genesis in history. A coup d'état and years of civil conflict exacerbated longstanding divides that have left deep wounds. The methods and motivations of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC) have not helped us to find a way forward to achieve the desired results for reconciliation. Nevertheless, we must continue implementation of the 207 recommendations in the Report, the majority of which have already been implemented. We are a small country, with relationships that cross the divide, and this has enabled us to remain united as a nation. Never must we forget that in union we are strong, and our success is assured. Therefore, we must all do more – I must do more – to heal these wounds, and do so this year, by implementing the Strategic Roadmap which has been formulated for this purpose. I believe that it will serve our nation well to take lessons from the experience of other countries by emphasizing restorative rather than retributive justice¹.”*-

This statement of admittance was a demonstration of the challenge the country was facing in pursuing and achieving national reconciliation. In a similar vein, President George Weah, in his inaugural speech, emphasized the need for national reconciliation. He asserted: *“The Samuel Kanyan Doe Sports Complex, built by the Chinese, where this Inaugural Ceremony is being held, is where I gained my exposure to the football world. It does not only stand as a monument of Chinese friendship toward Liberians, but it also stands as a symbol of peace and reconciliation for the Liberian people”*. *“During our civil conflict, this was a venue that brought opposing factions together during national matches, effectively reconciling them to a single national purpose, Liberia. And once again today, we stand at this same venue united for one purpose: Liberia. This is time that we put away our political differences to work together in forging a New Liberia, where the affordability of all goods and services will no longer be a luxury to the privileged, but rather a right for all Liberians”*.

¹ ANNUAL MESSAGE To the Sixth Session of the 53rd National Legislature of the Republic of Liberia
:http://www.emansion.gov.lr/doc/ANNUAL.pdf

The government's recognition of the country's need for reconciliation is contained in its PAPD. The entire pillar three (3), is dedicated to 'Sustaining the Peace' and specific topics which include: ending fragility and the root causes of conflict, increasing access to justice and reducing violent tendencies. All these topics are an integral part of fostering national reconciliation within a post-conflict context.

Despite public statements by national leaders about the relevance of national reconciliation that is reinforced in national development frameworks, like the PAPD, in order to sustain it, there must be a community dimension. This is the significance and value that this project brings to bear: mainstreaming the voices of community members and county leaders in carving their own reconciliation roadmap in sustaining the peace. What is unique about this project is that it is rooted in the experiences of local communities, identifying the drivers of divisions and collectively advancing solutions highlighted in the CAP. If fully implemented, it increases the likelihood of local ownership and commitment to reconciliation.

3.0 BRIEF HISTORICAL AND SOCIO- ECONOMIC CONTEXT:

Montserrado County is a county in the northwestern portion of Liberia. One of 15 counties that comprise the first-level of administrative division in the nation, it is composed of seventeen electoral districts. As of the 2008 Census, it had a population of 1,118,241, making it the most populous county in Liberia. The area of the county measures 1,912.7 square kilometres (738.5 sq mi), the smallest in the country. Bensonville serves as the capital.

Created in 1847 at the foundation of the country, the county is the oldest in Liberia and is bordered by Bomi County to the west, and Margibi County to the east. The southern part of Montserrado lies on the Atlantic Coast.

Males outnumber females in the county with 585,833 to 558,973. Christians compose an estimated 68.2% of the population, with Muslims totaling 31.8%.² All of Liberia's 16 main tribal groups are represented in the ethnic make-up of the county. Kpelle speaking groups represent 52% of the population while Bassa speakers comprise 21%, followed by Lorma with 6%, Kru with 4%, and all others with 3% or less each.

The county is divided into five administrative districts, seven cities, one borough, twenty-one townships, seven clans, and two chiefdoms. Judicially, the county has eight total courts between probate, justice of the peace, and magisterial courts.

² https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Montserrado_County

4.0 METHODOLOGY:

This section provides a summary of the methodology applied in generating information used in the compilation of this report. It further gives a detailed account of the consultative process, community and district level forums held, county plenary held, involving diverse stakeholders that led to the conceptualization and development of the county reconciliation roadmap and County Action Plan (CAP).

This project adopted a participatory approach (bottom to top), mainstreaming the voices of ordinary citizens, as well as stakeholders' engagements at multiple levels. This methodology was intended to engender local ownership and increase the chances of sustaining the process through community participation. In pursuit of this agenda, NAYMOTE implored a citizens' approach, whereby residents were the key organizers, discussants, and provided the contents for drafting the County Action Plan.

The project started with an inception phase that involved the conduct of project briefing meetings at county and district levels with local and traditional authorities, as well as representatives from CSOs and the religious community. These meetings were intended to promote local ownership of the process and increase citizens' understanding of the objectives of the project, their roles and responsibilities, as well as the intended outcomes. The meetings further sought to get the buying-in of citizens.

One key outcome of the briefing meetings was the establishment of a County Steering Committee (CSC). It comprised of seven (7) persons headed by the Office of the Superintendent and including representatives one representative each from the youth, women, civil society groups, and local government administration. Please see annex for list of members of the CSC. The CSC led the planning and organizing of the community, district and county level dialogues with logistical and technical support from NAYMOTE, through its Central office in Monrovia.

The Advancing Reconciliation through Legislative Reforms and Civic Engagement Project, is building on the previous reconciliation efforts³. This CAP was developed through the conduct of series of civic engagement events, including three community dialogues, two district level dialogues and one county reconciliation dialogue, resulting in the development of a 5-year county level action plan for Montserrado County. These dialogues will feed into a second phase of a national reconciliation conference in Monrovia where a 5-year work plan and vision will be validated.

³ Through national engagement with the Liberia Peacebuilding Office (PBO), under the Ministry of Internal Affairs (MIA), and the county-level peace and reconciliation plans were developed (a step down to the Strategic Road Map for National Reconciliation and Truth and Reconciliation Commission Report) as a result of the National Reconciliation Conference held in March 2018. The county-level plans have been incorporated in the Strategic Roadmap, the official national policy to ensure an ongoing and sustainable process of reconciliation. This grassroots engagement filled in a critical gap in Liberia's Reconciliation Process by allowing it to be devolved at the sub national level.

5.0 Conflict Assessment in Communities:

Community Meetings

Pursuant to the bottom to top approach in the implementation of this project, a conflict assessment was held targeting three (3) communities in the county, identified by the County Steering Committee (CSC) as conflict prone communities.⁴ The assessment, which was conducted in the form of a townhall meeting, included representatives from women group, youth group, and local leaders. This assessment had two fundamental objectives:

- To gather the views of ordinary citizens at the community level on the status of reconciliation in their communities;
- To identify conflict triggers, their root causes and implications on the county's development process.

In identifying the conflict issues, participants were divided into homogenous groups of youth, women and men. Issues that emerged from the working sessions were discussed in plenary and consensus reached on those issues that were undermining the peace in each community. A total of 136 persons, 37 females and 99 males participated in these community dialogues.

A summary of the main drivers of conflict included the following:

At the community dialogues, participants identified limited security presence to respond to crimes in the community, lack of access to justice, illicit drugs, and land and boundary disputes. Other issues identified included limited women representation in local government structures, sexual violence, the mismanagement of County Social Development Fund, economic hardship including an increase in prices of goods and basic commodities, unemployment especially among young people, etc.

5.1 Validation of Findings of the Assessment District Level Dialogues

The findings of the conflict assessment were validated through the conduct of two district level dialogues. During the dialogues, 103 stakeholders including 63 males and 40 females representing administrative authorities, teachers, youth groups, women groups, security agencies, and CSOs participated. The forums also created the opportunity for participants to identify additional drivers of conflict that did not emerge from the conflict assessment.

⁴ According to the CSC, indicators of hot spots communities included: history of conflict, reports of tensions and emerging conflicts, mixed ethnic groups, and increasing commercial activities.

To a large extent, conflict issues that were identified from the assessment were validated during the district dialogues through a process of ranking and scoring. In the analysis, participants categorized drivers of conflict as low, medium and high, as well as the actors. In addition to the conflict issues, corruption and the mismanagement of public funds dominated the discussions.

Another issue was introduced during the district level dialogue. Participants were asked about their views on the establishment of a war and economic crimes court in Liberia. Thirty two (32) persons out of 50 participants supported the establishment of the court), including 8 women. Twelve (12) opposed while six (6) persons abstained and did not have a position.

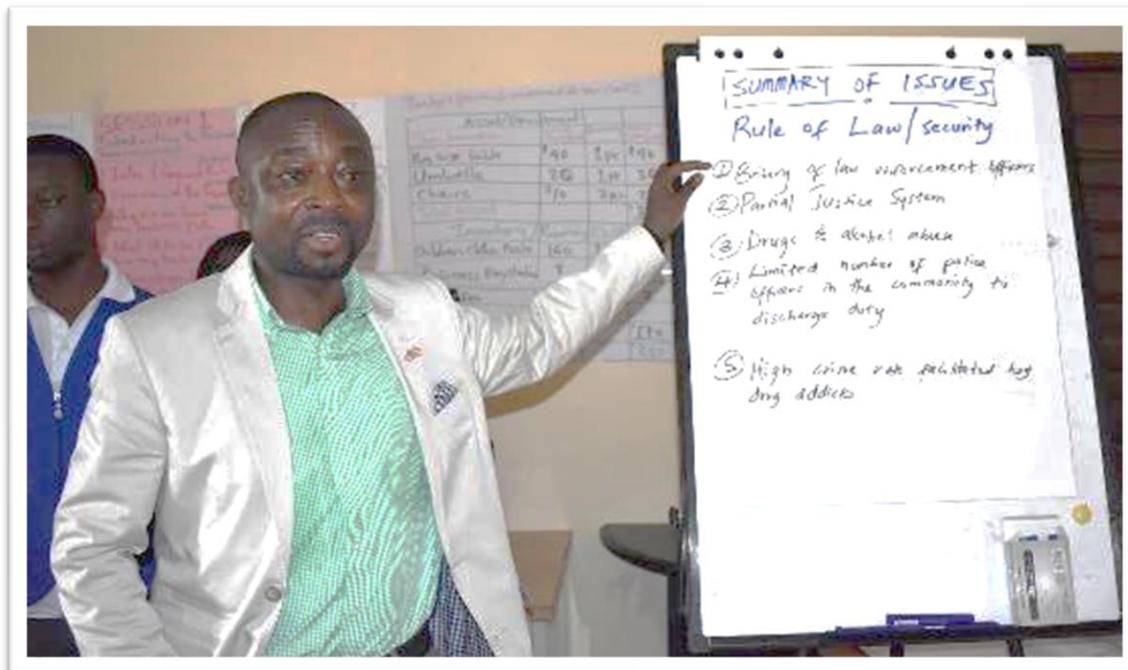
5.2 County Level Forum:

The assessment at the community level and the validation exercise through district dialogues culminated into the conduct of a one-day county forum. A total of 53 persons, 32 males and 21 females) participated in the dialogue. They included senior administrative leaders of the county, such as the Superintendent, District Commissioners, and members from security agencies, traditional leaders, leaders of women and youth groups, as well as leaders of CSOs and the media. Individuals who took part in the district level dialogues were also participants and this was intended to ensure continuity in the discussion regarding the information generated from the community and district levels.

At the forum, drivers of conflict that were generated from the communities and validated at the regional forums were presented by the facilitator to the participants for their endorsement or to make recommendations for adjustments where necessary. Through a participatory process guided by the facilitator, participants had the opportunity to review the issues and have an open conversation on them.

Through homogeneous group working sessions, participants discussed the issues and proposed responses and identified actors responsible for addressing them. The responses captured as concrete actions, served as the basis for the formulation of the (CAP). The CAP will serve as the document from which peacebuilding and reconciliation actions or interventions can be undertaken in the county for the next five (5) years. While the CAP is not set in stone, reconciliation interventions by national and international actors in the county must be aligned to the priorities contained in the document. The below matrix highlights the issues discussed at county forum:





6.0 SUMMARY OF ANALYSIS OF THE ISSUES:

SECTOR	DRIVERS OF CONFLICT	RATING	FACTORS RESPONSIBLE	EFFECTS	RESPONSES
Rule of law/ security	Ordinary Liberians don't feel that they get justice from the courts.	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> High cost for litigation coupled with judges taking bribes. 	Lack of trust in the justice system.	<p>Salaries and incentives for judges should be paid on time.</p> <p>Judges who take bribes should be prosecuted.</p> <p>Communities should be exposed to Alternative Dispute Resolution mechanisms.</p>
	Easy access to drugs is causing addiction among youth and is contributing to crimes.	Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Limited capacity by the LDEA to enforce the law. 	Youth violence and addiction.	Make the possession and sale of drugs a non-billable crime.
Social Cohesion	Double sale of land and boundary disputes	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Slow pace in the implementation of the Land Rights Act. Limited enforcement of the Criminal Conveyance Act 	Inter and intra communal violence	<p>Create awareness on the Land Rights Act and develop needed regulations for implementation.</p> <p>Enforce the Criminal Conveyance Act and prosecute individuals breaking the law.</p>
Sexual violence against women	Rape, sexual abuse and other harmful traditional practices	Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lack of criminal accountability Inability of the police to gather and store evidence for prosecution 	<p>Emotional and psychological effects on women and girls.</p> <p>Increased teenage pregnancy death</p>	<p>Gov't through MoGCSP should ensure the effective implementation of the Domestic Violence Act.</p> <p>Increase awareness and dialogue across the county on effects of rape/ and sexual abuse</p>

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Compromise of rape cases by family members - Traditional practice that forces girls into early marriage. 	rate among teenage girls during childbirth.	Individuals who compromise rape cases should be charged with criminal facilitation.
Accountability	Mismanagement of CSDF/CDFs.	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Lawmakers politicize projects. - Projects that are identified by the county are not the priorities of citizens. 	<p>Projects do not address the needs of communities.</p> <p>Some of the projects never get completed.</p>	<p>Limit the control and influence of lawmakers by enacting a stand-alone law.</p> <p>County authorities should hold regular meetings with citizens to provide timely information on decisions reached on the CDFs/CSDFs.</p>
	Local leaders not accountable to citizens	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Local leaders are appointed by the President and do not think that they are answerable to citizens. 	Lack of citizens' voice in decision-making processes.	Regulations for the implementation of the Local Government Act should be developed in order to decentralize political authorities.
Economy	<p>Increase in the prices of basic commodities.</p> <p>Lack of trust in the banking sector</p> <p>Unemployment among youth</p>	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - High exchange rate. - No new investments coming to the country. - Limited investment in agriculture by Government 	<p>Disenchantment among citizens</p> <p>Increase in crimes.</p> <p>Strain on families to provide for their children.</p>	<p>Government should cut down on unnecessary spending.</p> <p>Government should invest in agriculture by providing tools to farmers.</p> <p>Develop firm fiscal and monetary policies and adhere to them.</p>



7.0 County Reconciliation Roadmap:

- The county is reconciled, peaceful and united in all its undertakings and citizens are the front drivers of the social, economic and political spheres of the county.
- Increase citizens participation in decision-making that affect their lives,
- County resources, proceeds generated, and social benefits are fairly distributed across the county; and adequately managed in a way that local leadership are accountable to the people and development projects/initiatives are decided by the people of the county.
- Equal opportunities and basic services are provided for all citizens of Montserrado County irrespective of age, gender, religion, social, economic status and/or political affiliation.
- All citizens of Montserrado County demonstrate an appreciation of the county's culture, tradition and history, thereby promoting a sense of patriotism.
- Create awareness on the Land Rights Act and develop needed regulations for implementation.
- Enforce the Criminal Conveyance Act and prosecute individuals breaking the law.

7.1 COUNTY ACTION PLAN

ACTION PLAN FOR INCLUSIVE AND PARTICIPATORY RECONCILIATION IN MONTSERRADO COUNTY

	Vision of the Roadmap: The vision of the roadmap is: <i>A county wherein citizens have a voice in how decisions are reached.</i>						
	Overall Goal: To increase citizens' participation in the county's decision-making processes.						
Strategic Objective	Strategy	Activities	Responsible Party (ies)	Resources	Indicators of success	Means of Verification	Timeframe
Increase citizens' access to justice.	Institutional capacity development of the judiciary	Monitor the performance of the courts and provide feedback to the judiciary.	CSOs	Funds and logistics	Number of persons disaggregated by location and gender who feel that they are accessing justice.	Monitoring reports from CSOs.	Start during first quarter of 2020-2022.

Reduce land related conflicts	Strategic engagement among diverse stakeholders including LLA, MoJ, CSOs and communities	Educate citizens on the Land Rights and Criminal Conveyance Acts	Liberia Land Authority Ministry of Justice CSO	Make the simplified version of Land Rights Act available to communities Funding to create awareness on radio and holding town hall meetings	Number of land disputes disaggregated by locations that are resolved through ADR.	Reports from LLA, CSOs and media	First quarter of 2020-2023
Increase accountability in the management of CDF/CSDF	Advocate for a change to the budget law that will limit the influence of the lawmakers in managing the CDF/CSDF	Develop advocacy strategy Review national budget to assess allocations for CDF/CSDF Track payment from MFDP to county Monitor implementation of prioritized projects.	CSOs County Legislators MIA Superintendent County Budget Officer Project management committee	Copies of simplified version of the approved national budget. Funding for advocacy and monitoring the implementation of projects.	Change of current budget law to make county sitting inclusive and less controlled by lawmakers. County projects are responsive to the needs of citizens	Copies of the amended law Minutes of county sittings Monitoring reports from CSOs.	First quarter of 2020-2024

<p>Reduce Violence Against Women</p>	<p>Increase the role of community members in creating awareness</p> <p>Advocacy for criminal accountability of perpetrators.</p>	<p>Organize community meetings with diverse stakeholders</p> <p>Monitor and document rape and violence against women</p> <p>Create awareness among parents and relatives on the importance of not compromising rape cases.</p>	<p>Ministry of Gender Task force on SGBV</p> <p>CSOs</p> <p>LNP and the judiciary</p> <p>UN and other development partners</p> <p>Community members</p>	<p>Funding to conduct awareness, mobilize communities, document rape cases, advocate for redress and monitor the prosecution process.</p>	<p>% increase in the number of persons prosecuted for rape and violence against women.</p> <p>Reduction in the number of family members compromising rape cases.</p>	<p>Reports from the courts</p> <p>Reports from CSOs</p> <p>Feedback from community members and prosecutors</p>	<p>Beginning first quarter in 2020 up to 2024</p>
<p>Increase employment opportunities for young people.</p>	<p>Develop short, medium and long term employment strategies for young people</p> <p>Invest in vegetable farming</p>	<p>Map communities that have access to swamp and other lands suitable to grow for vegetables</p>	<p>Ministry of Agriculture</p> <p>World Bank</p>	<p>Funding for seeds, tools, training and supervision</p>	<p>Number of youth disaggregated by gender and locations making vegetable farms.</p>	<p>Household survey reports</p> <p>Reports from Focus Group Discussions held with young people</p>	<p>Beginning first quarter of 2020 up to 2024</p>

	targeting young people	Provide seeds, tools and new farming methods. Conduct market survey Link youth to the market			Number of young people disaggregated by gender whose income has increased and lives improved.		
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MEMBERS OF THE COUNTY STEERING COMMITTEE

No.	Name	Institution	Position
1.	Hon. Florence S. Brandy	Ministry of Internal Affairs	Superintendent
2.	Hon. Eric Vaye	Ministry of Internal Affairs	Asst. Sup., Fiscal Affairs
3.	Hon. Solomon Miller	Ministry of Internal Affairs	County Inspector
4.	Hon. Ernest Gargar	Ministry of Internal Affairs	Relieving Commissioner
5.	Mr. Sampson B. Bono	Ministry of Internal Affairs	Protocol Officer
6.	Mr. Carcia Porte	Voice of Rural Montserrado	Manager/ Journalist
7.	Mr. Joe Dennis	Bentol Youth Association	President
8.	Mr. Bedell Fahn	Brewerville City	Mayor

8.0 RECOMMENDATION:

In order to avoid this document from sitting on the shelf, it is strongly recommended that the county administration in collaboration with the Peace-Building Office (PBO), the Ministry of Internal Affairs (MIA) and the County Legislative Caucus develop a fundraising strategy to raise funds for the implementation of specific pillars over the five-year period.

For the Government:

That the government demonstrates its commitment to peace and reconciliation as contained in the (PAPD) by allocating resources in the national budget for the implementation of county-level reconciliation efforts.

For the International Development Partners:

Develop a mechanism for the flow of information that will improve coordination in supporting peace and reconciliation efforts that will address the structural conditions of conflict in Liberia.

For the Peacebuilding Office/MIA:

Develop a strategy for the coordination of efforts among CSOs supporting national and county level peace and reconciliation efforts. The PBO should limit its role to project implementation and focus more on coordination and monitoring the quality of implementation of CSOs.

For Civil Society Organizations:

Peace and reconciliation interventions should be developed in close consultation with the PBO so that resources are maximized and are addressing the most pressing needs.

For Local Leaders:

Use the County Action Plan and Roadmap for setting the county's reconciliation agenda and engaging CSOs and development partners to influence their reconciliation program.

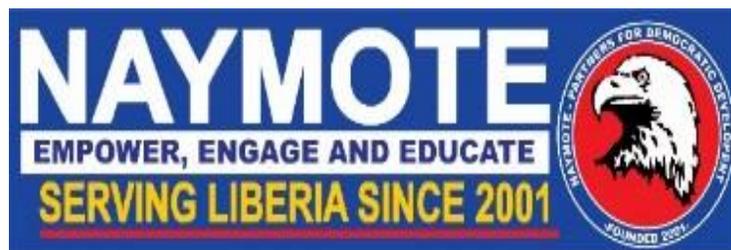
THE ADVANCING RECONCILIATION THROUGH LEGISLATIVE REFORMS AND CIVIC ENGAGEMENT PROJECT



United Nations Peacebuilding Support Office



*Empowered lives.
Resilient nations.*



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