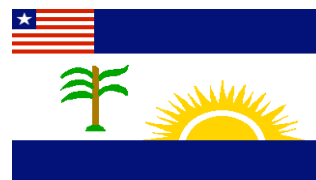


River Cess County Development Agenda

Republic of Liberia

2008 – 2012



County Vision Statement

River Cess County shall be a united, secure, center of excellence in the delivery of social and infrastructure services in poverty reduction for all.

Core values:

- Equal access to opportunities for all River Cess citizens
- Restoration of peace, security and the rule of law
- Transparent and effective governance
- Sustainable economic growth and job creation
- Preservation of natural resources and environmental protection



Republic of Liberia

Prepared by the County Development Committee, in collaboration with the Ministries of Planning and Economic Affairs and Internal Affairs.

Supported by the UN County Support Team project, funded by the Swedish Government and UNDP.

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A Message from the Minister of Internal Affairs



Today, as never before, development rests in the hands of the Liberian people. Citizens from all walks of life and all parts of River Cess County came together to voice their opinions, express their hopes for a better future and determine the path to get them there. This County Development Agenda was produced with and by the people and reflects their good sensibilities and judgment.

The Government of Liberia is making headway in the effort to transform how it represents and interacts with citizens. The national Poverty Reduction Strategy, which was produced through extensive consultations with the people, will guide national development 2008-2011. It establishes a new framework for action and partnership between Government, civil society, the private sector and the donor community. For the first time, a significant national strategy was developed in response to the needs and aspirations of the people. This is just the beginning of a new relationship between the Government and citizens.

Development is not easy. It will take many years of focused work to realize our dreams of a more prosperous country where our children and grandchildren all can live healthy, productive lives in a safe and peaceful environment. Success rests on three important factors: the soundness of our strategy, the resources to support our work and importantly the drive of our people to achieve the goals we've set forth. This document lays out the right strategy, and I appeal to our donors to provide us with the necessary support. But the real work is left to us, the Liberian people, and we must rise together to meet the challenges ahead of us.

Ambulai B. Johnson, Jr.

Minister of Internal Affairs

Foreword



This County Development Agenda marks a major shift in the history of River Cess County. Up to now, Liberia's regional development has been a major disappointment: we never had a cohesive policy and strategy; leaders lacked vision and political will; governance and planning were highly centralized in Monrovia; and institutions were always constrained by a lack of adequate human resources.

The CDA represents an important step toward addressing these issues and achieving the sustained and inclusive national development described in the Poverty Reduction Strategy 2008-2011. The logical starting point was to have the people themselves articulating where they want the country to go, and in which areas they would like to see our limited financial and human resources focused. As you will read, a rigorous county-wide consultation exercise was undertaken in all fifteen counties between September and December 2007. Citizens representing the various clans, towns, districts and county government, along with our partners in development, interacted to identify the pressing needs and priority action areas to achieve sustained development.

While this process represents an essential first step, the CDA is meaningless if it is not backed with concerted action. This is not just another document to be placed on the shelf; it must be seen as a living framework for accomplishing our people's plan for accelerated growth and social development on a sustained basis.

The challenge is to ensure that the new expectations emerging from the CDA process are met in a timely and comprehensive manner. Our success will depend on consistent planning and programming, prudent and honest use of resources, and perhaps most importantly, a collective will to succeed. The Liberian Government, for its part, remains committed to making the required reforms for fulfilling the people's vision for development: attracting investment to create jobs, promoting balanced growth countrywide, and decentralizing governance.

Our sincere thanks go to all the participants in these CDA exercises: County officials, Town, Clan and Paramount Chiefs, Legislators, representatives of the Ministries and Agencies, Civil Society organizations, international and local non-

governmental organizations, and private sector partners. We would also like to thank all those who assisted our team in the CDA process: the staffs of the participating Ministries and Agencies, cooks, cultural troupes, and students that ensured the success of CDA events. Finally, we thank our international partners, the UN Family, the EU, and USAID, among others who provided both financial and technical support to the entire process. Further such successful collaboration will be crucial as we move into the implementation phase of this historic and essential effort.

Toga Gayewea McIntosh, PhD

Minster of Planning and Economic Affairs

Preface



Fellow River Cess Citizens:

Never before in our history as a County has any leadership of Liberia planned the destiny of our County along with us. Now that this is being done through the District Consultation, County Consolidation, and regional workshops, we must all be reminded of our implicit and reciprocating roles in the future development of the County. No longer will we see our various projects as “Government-owned”, but as our very own. The people told the

Government what the people needed and we have made every effort to comply with the people’s vision in this document.

We in the County Administration hail the people of the County for their independence and far-sightedness in the selection of three priority areas for development and the projects under these areas. Coincidentally, our compatriots in all of the other fourteen political sub-divisions of Liberia were driven to the very same choices, namely Roads, Education, and Health.

As the implementation process kicks off, we urge the people of the County to take ownership of the projects through their active participation, keeping open and collegial communication with the Special County Development Council, the District Development Committees, the Office of the Superintendent and the Legislative Caucus.

In conclusion, we sincerely thank all those that guided us in the completion of this CDA document in whatever way.

B. Rancy Ziankahn, County Superintendent

River Cess County Officials

Name	Title
B. Rancy Ziankahn	Superintendent
J. Kaiwi Zogar	Development Superintendent
Wallace D. Doe	County Inspector
Jerry F. Green	Project Planner
Stanley Ben	Sta. District Superintendent
Morris O.Z. Reeves	Sta. District Superintendent
Samuel D. Jacobs	Sta. District Superintendent
Jathaniel Durings	County Commissioner
Richard Flemmings	County Commissioner
Thomas Gbardyu	County Commissioner
Gabriel Doeyou	Official-in-Charge
Edward Gbordoe	County Commissioner
Paul Kargngar	Official-in-Charge
James D. Baryogar	County Education Officer
Richard Blamo	County Commissioner
Augustus Richards	County Commissioner
Benjamin Duncan	Labor Commissioner
Byron Zanwhea	County Health Officer
J. Edjeay Tray	Gender Coordinator
Pellerson Waygbeah	Commerce Inspector
Josiah Teah	Youth Coordinator
Victor Teah	Engineer, MPW
Nelson H. Reeves	County Attorney
Tomas Sackor	Commander, LNP
Oliver B. Teekpeh	Agriculture Coordinator
Jackson Owei	Mining Agent
S. Solo Riah	Registrar, CNDRA
James B. Jimlack	Coordinator, GSA

Name	Title
David M. G. Meyers	Revenue Agent
Joseph M. Kolubah	Coordinator, FDA
Momo Duwai	Resident Surveyor
Alfred Blyee	Commander, BIN
Innis B. Gbar	Commander, DEA
William Bill Topo	Election Magistrate
Lawernce Wright	Commander, NSA
Samuel Geevon-Smith	Circuit Judge

Executive Summary

River Cess is one of Liberia's least developed and most isolated counties. Most households were displaced during the war. The County is rich in terms of timber and fishery, but has very little road or basic services infrastructure. The main livelihood activities today include palm oil production, hunting, food cropping and fishing. Acute and chronic malnutrition rates are alarmingly high. As a key component of the recovery effort, the County Development Agenda is the local complement to the national Poverty Reduction Strategy 2008-2011, and was prepared following a series of District Development Consultation Meetings that utilized the Participatory Rural Appraisal (PRA) method. In this process, citizens managed to identify the critical interventions needed to move toward realizing the MDGs, including: paving of all primary roads and most secondary roads to connect agriculture communities to market; construction and rehabilitation of health facilities with proper staffing and affordable services; and much-expanded education services. The CDA calls for concrete actions to be taken under the four Pillars of the national PRS, namely Security, Economic Revitalization, Governance and Rule of Law, and Infrastructure and Basic Services. Finally, the CDA lists the specific projects that were identified for action at the District level. The projects and priorities in the CDA should be taken as the principal targets for the county's development funding during the CDA implementation period.



PART ONE - INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

1.1 Introduction

River Cess was the twelfth county established in Liberia. The County derives its name from the Cestos (meaning “crawfish basket”) River. Cestos City, formerly known as River Cess City, is the headquarters of the County. The main livelihood activities today include palm oil production, hunting, food crops production and fishing. Acute and chronic malnutrition rates are alarmingly high. This in part could be explained by the geographical isolation of River Cess. Most households’ access to improved drinking water and health facilities is extremely limited.

1.2 History

The area underwent various political and territorial metamorphoses before becoming a County, starting in 1887 when the area was declared a district under Grand Bassa County. River Cess District extended from the Newcess River in the West to the Sankun River in the East. The first capital was Timbo City, with one Captain Stewart as its first District Commissioner.

In 1912, River Cess District was accorded the status of Statutory District and subsequently, assumed the status of Territory in 1955 with its headquarters relocated at River Cess City (now Cestos City). Starting in 1976, there were calls for the creation of a new county in the region by people who felt marginalized by the people of Grand Bassa and opined that development was not trickling down to them.

Upon becoming a county in 1984, there were two districts, namely Timbo and Morweh.

Since 1984, there has been a concerted effort by national government to establish districts, chiefdoms, clans, townships and cities, resulting in an additional 4 districts, bringing the total number to six.

In the past tensions arose on account of logging activities. The local populace felt that timber was been exploited from their community without any benefit to them. In 2005 there was a serious problem regarding acceptance of the authority of the Liberia National Police in River Cess.

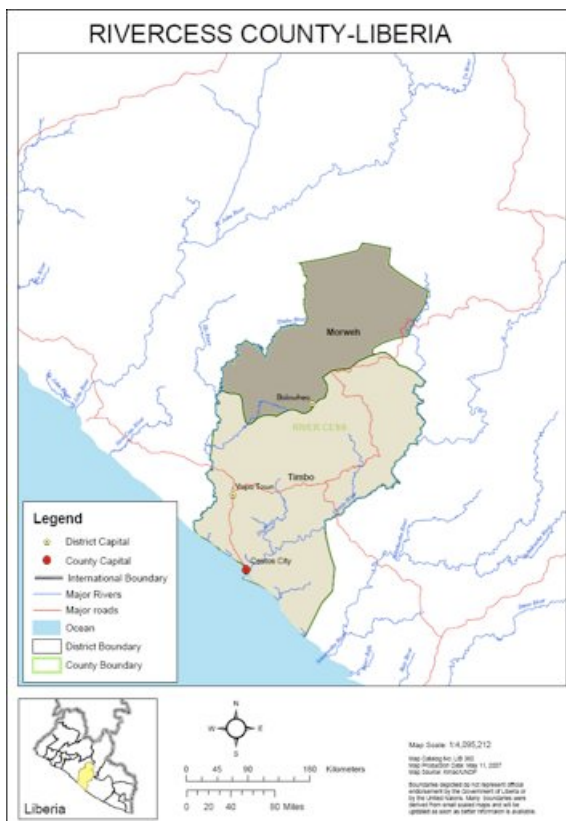
Most households in the County were displaced during the civil war, though many have returned or resettled by now.

River Cess Flag



1.3 Geography

The County is situated 320 kilometers southeast of Monrovia, lying at 5 degrees 36'23N and 9 degrees 39' 31W, with an average altitude of 84 meters. River Cess has an area of 5,263.4 square kilometers and a coastline of 62 kilometers. The area is bound by the counties of Grand Bassa in the west, Nimba and Grand Gedeh in the North, Sinoe in the Southeast, and the Atlantic Ocean in the South. Prominent geographical features demarcating the County are River Timbo in the West, River Blonne in the East, and the Whomeh and Gienee Rivers in the North. Cestos City is situated on the coast, alongside the Cestos River. The nearest major town to Cestos is Buchanan in Grand Bassa County, some 140 kilometers away.



Climate

The region experiences heavy rainfall, ranging from 160cms to 170cms annually, with the heaviest rains in August to September. Temperatures generally range from 25 to 32 degrees Celsius. The coastal areas experience high humidity during the months of November to January. Wetlands and swampy areas are common in the County on account of the heavy rainfall. The climate during the months from December to May is most conducive to farming of rice, cassava, rubber, cocoa and palm trees. Dust-laden harmattan winds blow down from the Sahara from December to March, and since it does not usually rain this season, the dust tends to remain noticeable in the air for two months.

Topography

River Cess County is generally considered lowland and partly thick green forest. The major mountain ranges in River Cess are found in Morweh District. The Cestos River runs through the lowlands into the Atlantic Ocean.

Geology

Soil types vary with location. In the Timbo district area, the soil is sandy. In Yarnee District, one sees mangrove swamps and water-logged soils. In the Central River District, the soil has a reddish color. In Morweh, the soil is both reddish and of the Mangrove type.

Vegetation

The vegetation of River Cess is both savannah and green forest, mostly the latter.

1.4 Demography¹

River Cess has a population of 53,669 according to a projection by the Ministry of Planning and Economic Affairs in 1997. Average household size is 5.5. The County has a dependency ratio of 1.43; higher than the national dependency ratio of 1.37. Households are mostly male dominated, with only 12% of households headed by females. The Bassa-speaking people are in the majority, making up 96 % of the County's population. Other ethnic groups in the County include the Kpelle (1%), the Kru (2%) and the Grebo (1%). About 1 percent of all households surveyed reported having orphans.

Table 2: Demographic Indicators

County	Demographic Indicators				
	HH size	Dependency ratio	Sex of HH head		Elderly headed households
			Male	Female	
River Cess	5.5	1.43	88%	12%	10%
Liberia	5.6	1.37	87%	13%	8%

Source: Comprehensive Food Security and Nutrition Survey, October 2006

Table 3: Percentage Distribution of Dialects Spoken

County	Language and Dialects Spoken													
	Bassa	Gbandi	Gio	Gola	Grebo	Kissi	Kpelle	Krahn	Kru	Lorma	Mano	Vai	Sapo	Other
River Cess	93%	0%	0.3%	0%	0.5%	0%	0.2%	2%	2%	0%	1%	0%	0%	2%
Liberia	18%	2%	7%	6%	9%	4%	26%	4%	3%	7%	7%	4%	1%	1%

Source: Comprehensive Food Security and Nutrition Survey, October 2006

Table 4: Households with Disabled Members and Orphans

County	Households with Disabled Members and Orphans				
	Chronically ill/ disabled	No of chronically ill/ disabled	Chronically ill/ disabled HH head	Orphans	No of orphans
River Cess	7%	1.1	24%	1%	2.0
Liberia	9%	1.2	26%	2%	1.4

Source: Comprehensive Food Security and Nutrition Survey, October 2006

¹ Data and statistics provided in this document were based on estimates prior to the conduct of the 2008 National Population and Housing Census. This information will duly be updated when valid results are available and subsequent revisions shall be made.

Other Population Figures

The Ministry of Rural Development in collaboration with UNICEF conducted a village profile assessment between September 2004 and January 2005, in which River Cess was said to have a population of 53,087. This is a summation of 9,793 persons in Jowein District, 7,479 in Yarnee District, 11,370 in Dodain/Morweh District, 8,073 in Jo-River District, 6,866 in Central River Cess District and 9,506 in Timbo District. Note that six districts are mentioned in the Village Profile assessment, instead of the original two districts recognized in the last (1984) census.

Table 5: Population per Statutory Districts

County	District	Population
River Cess	Jo-River	9793
	Dodain	11370
	Nyunwein	8073
	Central River Cess	6866
	Fehn River Zarflahn	9506
	Bear Wor Sangbalor	7479
Total		53087

Source: Ministry of Rural Development/UNICEF Village Profile

The below population table is extracted from the Norwegian Refugee Council Needs Assessment report, "Returnees Monitoring Program" conducted in 2005. Figures contained here are solely based on what was reported by enumerators from NRC whose work was based on the County's original two districts.

Table 6: NRC Population Data

River Cess									
District	Total	Population by status				Population by status - percentage			
		Locals	Returnees (Ref. & IDPs)	IDPs	Refugees	Locals %	Returnees (Ref. & IDPs)%	IDPs %	Refugees %
Morweh	47712	47591	121	0	0	99.75%	0.25%	0.00%	0.00%
Timbo	77053	76893	137	23	0	99.79%	0.18%	0.03%	0.00%
Total	124765	124484	258	23	0	99.77%	0.21%	0.02%	0.00%

Source: Norwegian Refugee Council January 2007

Table 7: Population Data by gender

River Cess					
District	Total	Population by gender		Population gender percentage	
		Female	Male	Female	Male
Morweh	47712	20962	26750	43.93%	56.07%
Timbo	77053	31424	45629	40.78%	59.22%
Total	124765	52386	72379	41.99%	58.01%

Source: Norwegian Refugee Council January 2007

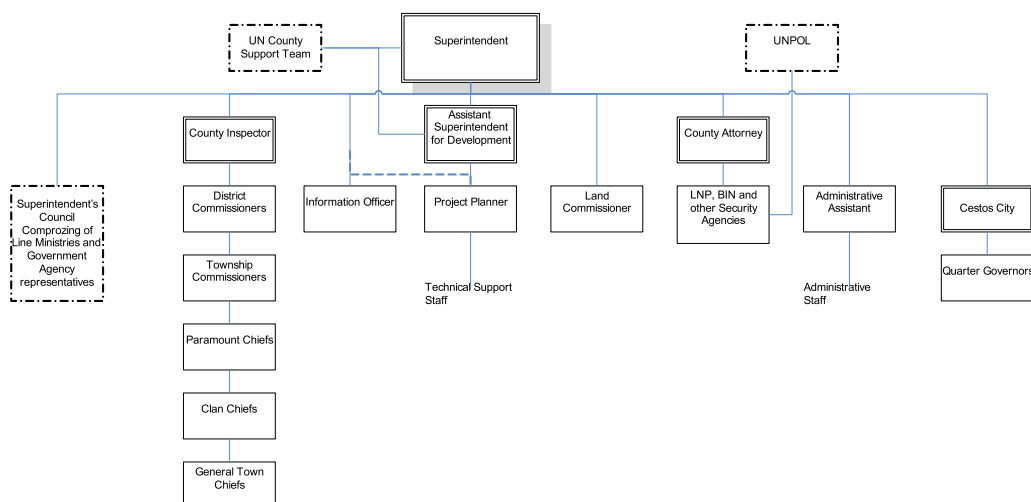
Ethnicity and Religion

Indigenous tribes make 99% of the population, dominated by Bassa (78%) and Kru (18%) tribes. Kru population is founding the districts of Yarnee and Timbo, mostly involved in fishing activities. The Mandingo tribe is also represented by a small minority population near Cestos. Many Mandingos have adopted the Bassa culture, yet continue to speak their own language. Representations of Kissi, Gio and Krahn are also visible in the area but in a small minority. There are many people whose parents belong to more than one tribe on account of marriage, especially Kru and Bassa, but these people mostly identify themselves with the Bassa culture, since it is dominant in the area.

75% of the population is Christian. Most of the rest are practitioners of animist faiths, with a tiny Muslim minority. Poro, Sande, Bodeo, Neegee and Kpayah traditional belief societies are important institutions in many areas. Of the Christian churches, Episcopal churches are most common. Services in churches that are not kwi tend to be more ebullient; dancing and occasional street processions in colorful costumes are features of their practice. Biblical inscriptions play a leading role. In most of these churches, some form of spiritual or faith healing is practiced.

1.5 Institutional Structure

River Cess County has eight administrative districts: Dodain, Joe River, Fehn, Zarflahn, Nyunwein, Central River Cess, Bear-Wor, and Sangbalor. These are further divided into statutory districts. The County is headed by a Superintendent appointed by the President. Each statutory district is headed by a District Superintendent who reports to the County Superintendent. The administrative districts are headed by District Commissioners appointed by the President, who report to the District Superintendent. The administrative districts are further sub-divided into chiefdoms that are headed by elected Paramount Chiefs. These chiefdoms are further divided into clans that are headed by Clan Chiefs. The clans are further sub-divided into zones headed by General Town Chiefs, who are elected. The Zone Chiefs control Town Chiefs who are selected by the residents of the town.



1.6 Methodology used in preparing the CDA

The County Development Agenda is the local expression of the national aspirations in the Poverty Reduction Strategy 2008-2011. The CDA was developed alongside the PRS and can be seen as the local strategy to carry the nation toward its PRS goals. The process started with a series of 132 Participatory Rural Appraisal (PRA) workshops at the district level in all counties, where district development priorities were identified. Following these meetings, district representatives met in each County to identify three priority needs out of the priorities identified during the district workshops. Finally, a series of three regional meetings gathered representatives from the 15 counties to consolidate and harmonize county priorities into regional priorities, which served as the basis for the drafting of the PRS.

In River Cess County there were eight District Development Consultation Meetings, covering Jo-River, Dodain, Nyunwein, Central River Cess, Fehn River, Zarflahn, Bear Wor, Sangbalor Districts. Delegates prepared clan-based timelines of development events in their areas as well as known resources and clan profiles. Crosscutting issues such as gender sensitivity, HIV and AIDS were discussed as well. Thereafter the districts considered challenges and, using SWOT (Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats) analysis and Problem/Solution Mapping techniques, developed the District Action Plans annexed hereon. These plans were then analyzed and consolidated at a County Development Agenda Consolidation Meeting that informed the County Action Plan below.



River Cess
County Consultations



PART TWO - PRIORITIES, ISSUES AND ACTIONS

Part Two lays out the development issues for action as identified by the citizens of the County. The three most urgent priorities for action are considered first, followed by the wider list of actions to be taken over the next five years, presented by Pillar area, as in the PRS. Finally, six major cross-cutting issues are considered, including discussion of the context and objectives for each.

2.1 Development Priorities

As discussed in the above, the County's development priorities were arrived at through a process of participatory consultation at the district level, followed by a process of consolidation at the county level. The three priorities for development that are common to all the districts in the County are 1) roads, 2) health facilities and 3) educational facilities. To bring about development in those priority areas, twenty-one secondary roads, twenty-one health facilities and twenty-one educational facilities were prioritized for construction or rehabilitation among the various districts, as listed in the Annexes below.

District Priorities

The nature and process of formulating the MDG-Based National Development Agenda called the Poverty Reduction Strategy (PRS) has enabled local capacities for decision-making whereby the 8 districts in River Cess, through a participatory process, have been able to express their aspirations, expectations and priorities for development. Priorities common to all the districts in River Cess County are basic social service infrastructures: roads, health facilities and educational facilities.

County Priorities

The County priorities reflect a consolidation of district priorities. District representatives met on November 12 & 13 2007 in Cestos City and ranked three out of six priority needs identified by districts as outcomes of seven district consultation workshops. Priority needs included roads and bridges, education, health, WATSAN facilities and agriculture/food security.

2.2 Security Pillar

The security situation is stable in the County. The only major security threat could come from ex-combatants who are involved in illegal pit sawing, and gold and diamond mining.

A company of Ethiopian UN peacekeepers is stationed at Cestos City and Yarpah Town, conducting patrols during the dry season in most districts, except Yarnee, due to accessibility issues. The check point in Yapah Town is manned by the Ethiopian contingent and LNP.

There are 54 LNP officers stationed in the County: 6 in Yapah Town and the rest in Cestos City.

Table 10: LNP Recruitment and Training

Agency	Recruited		Trained		Deployed
	Old	New	Old	New	
LNP	757	2791	757	2791	2163

Source: United Nations Police (UNPOL)

The Liberian National Police was deployed in Cestos City with outposts in the outlying districts prior to the 2003/4 MODEL attack on the County. Since the onslaught which resulted to the destruction of the Police stations, the LNP presence has not been fully established in the County. There are only two police stations in the whole of the County. The lack of office accommodation, transportation and communication remains a serious hurdle.

Table 11: Status of LNP

	Jo River	Dodain	Nyunwein	Central River Cess	Fehn River	Zarflahn	Bear Wor	Sangblor
Police Station			1	1			1	
Village/ Town								
Police Presence	9	9	10	13			11	

Source: Civil Affairs office in River Cess July 2007

Bureau of Immigration and Naturalization (BIN)

River Cess is a part of the BIN region 4 command structure. The command headquarters is in Cestos City. The BIN has three detachments and no border entry posts in River Cess County. Nationally, the BIN recruited 1642 old officers and 5 new officers as a part of its restructuring. Training has also been provided for all those recruited. The training included refresher courses (137 officers), training of senior management (38 officers), personnel at the airport (32 officers), recordkeeping (15 officers) and statistics (20 officers).² Out of the 1647 BIN officers employed, the capacity building plan for the BIN initially earmarked the deployment of 15 immigration officers. No information exists regarding the actual number of officers presently deployed in the County.

BIN in River Cess has enormous needs, including the construction of headquarters in Cestos City and detachment to enable the BIN to provide vital immigration-related support for the entire South-Central region of Liberia. Provision of 4x4 vehicles and motorbikes will ease the transportation problem. Officers also need uniforms, power supply, computers and communication equipment.

² United Nations Police (UNPOL)

Corrections

River Cess has no formal corrections system. The Bureau of Corrections and Rehabilitation cites the County among those without corrections facilities. Local authorities must result to improvising, putting themselves at risk and making them incapable of meeting minimum human/prisoner's rights requirements.

Interventions: Security

Issue	Interventions	Delivery Date	Lead Ministry / Agency
Goal: To create a secure and peaceful environment, both domestically and in the sub-region, that is conducive to sustainable, inclusive, and equitable growth and development.			
Strategic objective 1: To build the capacity of security institutions			
Training is still needed for some security institutions, security institutions lack logistics, equipment, and adequate remuneration for operation.	Construct police stations, depots and staff accommodations in: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Timbo City at Timbo Beach • Garpue City in Central River Cess District • Zeebozohn City in Yarnee Statutory District • Borgeezay City in Morweh Statutory District • ITI in Bearwor 	2008-2012	LNP
	Build sub-stations with housing for eight police officers and their families at the eight administrative headquarters: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dodain at Karngbo Town • Jo- river at Bodowhea • Zarflahn at Garwrloh • Fehn River at Kpah Town • Nyunwein at Gbloseo • Bearwor at Krakpo • Sangbalor at Klagba • Central River Cess at Zammie Town 	2008-2012	LNP
	Hire, train and deploy an additional 100 police officers	2008-2012	LNP
	Increase the deployment of BIN Officers to adequately cover the County	2008-2012	BIN
	Construct a detention center at each statutory district headquarters	2008-2012	Corrections
	Construct a central prison at Darsaw Town in Cestos City	2008-2012	Corrections
Strategic objective 2: To provide adequate territorial protection and law enforcement services to the general population of Liberia			
Inadequate presence of security officers throughout Liberia, security institutions are not yet in full control of security responsibility.	Organize trainings for all the various security organs to improve their performance	2008-2012	Security organs
	Supply all LNP and BIN posts with vehicles, motorcycles, communication sets, sleeping quarters, office furniture and supplies. LNP needs are projected at: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 6 vehicles • 16 motorcycles with necessary accessories • 15 HF Base radios • 32 handsets 	2008-2012	LNP, BIN
Strategic objective 3: To ensure institutional participation in security governance and functions			
Civilians and local authorities are excluded from participating in security governance.	Create awareness and sensitize the people on community policing to reduce the crime rate	2008-2012	LNP, MIA
		2008-2012	LNP, MIA

2.3 Economic Revitalization Pillar

Natural Resources

Timber

River Cess County has three major logging concession areas in Morweh, Central River Cess and Yarnee Statutory Districts respectively, exceeding 160,000 hectares of prime forest in total. There is also a special soft-grade timber stand of 50,000 hectares planted by GoL near Neezuin in Central River Cess. The area has a variety of species of trees with commercial potential, including Niangon (heritera utilities), tetra, abjura (mitragyna ciliate), ekki (lophira alata), lovoa, sipo, bozze and sapale. Of these, niangon and tetra are dominant, and are principally used for construction of houses and furniture making.

The Forestry Development Authority (FDA) has declared the area of tropical rain forest in Cestos-Sahnkwehn as “Proposed Protected Forest”. The Krahn-Bassa Forest in the Southwest of the County has also been declared as a National Forest.



Three large timber companies including the Oriental Timber Company (OTC), STC and the River Cess Logging Company were active in the County until the end of the war, which testifies to the economic potential of timber logging. County residents see high potential for the establishment of a local timber processing plant to manufacture such products as paper, tissue, and plywood, and provide employment. One proposed site for such a facility is Neezuin in Central River Cess Statutory District on the Buchanan-Greenville Highway.

Investment in the logging industry will yield significant dividends to the people, and could employ a good number of ex-combatant youth. There are currently no registered logging companies operating in the County; timber is only logged illegally by groups of ex-combatants and outsiders claiming authorization from the Forestry Development Authority. It was observed in 2005 that logging was taking place in more than 20 locations in the Central River Cess and Timbo districts, each with at least five power saws operating. If left un-checked, this indiscriminate logging could result in the decimation of the forest reserves. The Forest Development Authority has called for conducting an inventory survey and establishing a log tracking system, moves that would be roundly supported by the people of the County.

Local populations have always complained that timber is being indiscriminately logged from the area without much local economic or social benefit, at the same time resulting in the unsustainable deforestation of the tropical forests. This has periodically resulted in public stopping of timber trucks and even the harassment of staff of logging companies. With the lifting of the sanctions on timber, this problem could again resurface. Authorities will need to be empowered to ensure that the Forestry Reform Laws are adhered to. Communities are also adamant that logging and other extraction activities are undertaken in a way that involves and benefits local people.

Rubber

While potential exists for expanded production of rubber, currently rubber tapping is not a major feature in the County's economic life.

Mining

Like many counties in Liberia, River Cess County has ample potential mineral resources that are yet to be tapped. Gold and diamonds are currently mined illegally, and only at the artisanal level. The 2005 CFSNS found 2% of households involved in mining activities.

Agriculture

The agriculture sector is in need of revitalization after the long war. Before the war, there existed many farm cooperatives in River Cess County, and about 90% of the population was engaged in farming activities. Subsistence farming is still the predominant economic activity; 90% of the households cultivate rice, and 70% grow cassava. Other crops include maize, yams, okra, sugarcane, and peanuts. Rubber, cocoa, coffee, and palm oil



plantations still exist, but cash-crop production is well below potential due to lack of investment and transportation infrastructure.

Access to agricultural land for cultivation was estimated at 76% in the 2006 Comprehensive Food Security and Nutritional Survey. The main crops cultivated during this time and their corresponding percentages are as follows: Rice (84%), Cassava (77%), and assorted vegetables (6%). The main crops produced for household consumption included rice, cassava, plantain/banana, vegetables, sweet potatoes and corn. Cash crops included rubber (31%), coffee (4%), cacao (19%), coconuts (16%), sugarcane (7%), pineapple (13%), plantain/banana (50%), palm nuts/oil (12%) and cola nuts (2%). One out of every four to five households in 2005 had a small section of land (0.5 - 1.0 acres) upon which cocoa or coffee trees were grown to provide cash income. Rice is grown mostly under rain-fed conditions.

One percent of household survey in the County owned goats, another 1% owned pigs, 41 percent owned chicken and 6% owned ducks.

Morweh Statutory District in upper River Cess is known as the bread basket of the County, with rich soils and long farming tradition. The area is predominantly rice and cassava, though more than fifty percent of the cocoa and coffee from Nimba and Grand Bassa Counties is also acquired from Morweh. The potential for agricultural and agro-processing investment is perhaps highest in this part of the County, especially in the vicinity of Borgeezay. The major impediment to the area's potential is the dire state of farm-to-market roads.

Shifting cultivation and bush fallowing are widely practiced across the County due to the generally low fertility of soils and the nutrient needs of the rice plant to produce a reasonable harvest. Agricultural productivity in the County is hampered by a number of factors as indicated below, mostly related to a lack of capital for inputs.

Table 12: Agriculture Constraints

Lack of seeds	Lack of tools	Lack of fertilizer & pestilence	Lack of household labor	Birds / groundhogs attack	Returned late for planting	Lack of arable land	Plant disease/ insect attack	Lack of training	No market	Lack of cash	HH engaged in other activities
45%	60%	6%	28%	9 & 14% respectively	3%	4%	3%	2%	1%	47%	13%

Source: Comprehensive Food Security and Nutrition Survey, October 2006

Fisheries

River Cess County has four principal rivers (Timbo, Cestos, Po and Sahnkuen) along with many smaller rivers that flow into the Atlantic Ocean, which provide breeding grounds for the wide range of fish resources including large pelagic, small pelagic and demersal fish, shrimp and lobster. These varieties can be exploited for domestic, regional, and international trade.

Fishing is the second-largest economic activity in the County after farming. Five fishing teams work out of Cestos City using motorboats for ocean fishing, and a

number of unaffiliated fishermen use canoes on the ocean and in rivers. The industry remains in its infancy, and provision of inputs to fisher folk will have major benefits to the economy of Cestos City.

Markets

According to the CFSNS table below, 8% of marketers in the County are engaged in business transactions in Monrovia and 10% are selling in local urban centres. Households have to walk almost 3 hours to reach a nearby market point. 92% percent of those who go to markets do so buy food, while 21% go there to sell food.

Table 13: Access to Market

County	Access to Markets					
	Selling in Monrovia	Selling in urban centre/across the border	Walking distance to weekly market in hours	Access to market	If access, households ...	
					Buy food	Sell food
River Cess	8%	10%	2.7	92%	92%	21%
Liberia	8%	32%	2.6	98%	55%	55%

Source: Comprehensive Food Security and Nutrition Survey, October 2006



Customs

There are currently no Customs offices in the County.

Revenue Collection

The Department of Revenue has 24 revenue collectorates spread across the fifteen counties. A revenue agent heads each collectorate. River Cess County has one collectorate with two revenue agents covering the entire County.

Despite the significant recent increase in the level of revenue collection, revenue collection is greatly hampered by a lack of support of Customs to deploy in leeward areas, a lack of revenue agents, transportation and other logistics, and work incentives. The poor working conditions create room for corruption.

Table 14: Deployment of Revenue Agents

Number of posts	Location	Status of posts	Number of Officers	Safes	Vehicles
1	Cestos City	Needs construction		None	None
1	Cestos City	Needs construction			
1	Jo River	Needs construction			
		Needs construction	2		
0	Fehn River				
0	Dodain	Needs construction			
0	Central River				
0	Zarflahn	Needs construction			
0	Bear Wor	Needs construction			
0	Bear Wor	Needs construction			

Source: UNMIL Civil Affairs River Cess Office, July 2007

Access to finance and banks

The County has no bank, and consequently the population does not have access to credit, savings accounts, or other business development services to bolster economic activity and self-sufficiency. Lack of access to capital is a major factor hampering agricultural development. Making up the bulk of the entrepreneurial class, women in particular need access to banking services to contribute to, and benefit from, social and economic opportunities.

Employment Situation

The Government of Liberia is the largest formal employer in River Cess. Outside of Government and a few NGO jobs, formal wage employment is nearly non-existent. Most residents are engaged in agriculture and/or informal petty trading.



Interventions: Economic Revitalization

Issue	Interventions	Delivery Date	Lead Ministry / Agency
Goal: Restoring production in the leading natural resource sectors, especially agriculture, while ensuring the benefits are widely shared; and reducing production costs to establish the foundation for diversification of the economy over time into competitive production of downstream products, and eventually manufactures and services.			
Strategic objective 1: Develop more competitive, efficient, and sustainable food and agricultural value chains and linkages to markets.			
Agricultural supply chains have collapsed due to fragmented markets, weak rural demand, no value addition, and few incentives for cash crop production.	Provide business development services and incentives to encourage business investment in the county, and to encourage the value addition/manufacture of goods for local consumption and export	2008-2012	
	Provide capacity building support toward the formation of agricultural cooperatives	2008-2012	
	Provide support to communities to develop 1000 acres of land per district for farming purposes	2008-2012	
Strategic objective 2: Improve food security and nutrition, especially for vulnerable groups such as pregnant and lactating women and children under five.			
High levels of food insecurity and child malnutrition impede socio-economic development and poverty reduction.	Disseminate agricultural best practices through practical training of women and men farmers, using ToT methods	2008-2012	MoA
	Provide food assistance to schools, health facilities, and vulnerable populations using locally-produced food wherever possible	2008-2012	MoA, MoE
	Provide tools for farmers across the County, such as cutlasses, axes, hoses, rakes, and shovels, in quantities based on pending statistics on existing farmers from the County Agricultural Office	2008-2012	MoA
	Expand aquaculture projects through the provision of extension services and inputs	2008-2012	MoA
	Train farmers in seed multiplication and on retaining seeds from own harvests for replanting, to address dependency on external seed supply	2008-2012	MoA
Strategic objective 3: Strengthen human and institutional capacities to provide needed services, create a strong enabling environment, and reduce vulnerability.			
Institutions remain largely ineffective at delivering services such as regulation, policy and planning, and research and extension.	Empower security agencies to curb illegal pit-sawing and enforce the new Forestry Law to curtail the hemorrhaging of timber resources	2008-2012	FDA, Security Organs
	Organize and publicize workshops/training for owners and workers of small and medium enterprises in the County, based on needs identified by the businesses themselves	2008-2012	MoCI, MoL
	Regularize mining licenses and concessions where possible	2008-2012	MLME
	Provide incentives to the private sector and inputs to re-establish logging activities in Morweh, Central River Cess and Yarnee	2008-2012	FDA, NIC
	Provide incentives and inputs to open commercial gold and diamond mines in Central River Cess	2008-2012	MLME, NIC
	Identify free land available for economic development use, with the consensus of affected communities and all relevant stakeholders	2008-2012	MIA
	Increase the number of tax revenue agents, supply them with logistical necessities and training	2008-2012	
	Provide tax holidays to investors establishing themselves in rural agricultural areas	2008-2012	MoF
	Construct Central Bank Facilities in Cestos City and Borgeezay City	2008-2012	MoF
	Construct agriculture bank at Borgeezay City	2008-2012	MoF
	Provide incentives for the establishment of bank branches in rural communities	2008-2012	MoF
	Strengthen market infrastructure and policies to facilitate better-functioning markets, based on the input of marketers	2008-2012	MoL
	Facilitate the formalization of informal businesses through licensing, business development services	2008-2012	MoL

2.4 Governance and Rule of Law Pillar

Governance in the County suffers major capacity and infrastructural constraints. Officials assigned to the County often fail to take up their assignments, citing the lack of offices and living accommodation. The UN County Support Team has embarked upon the construction of an administrative building in Cestos City, which will go a long way in helping the County administration to function. The CDA consultations found a need for extensive capacity building of local government officials including staff of the County Superintendent's office, paramount and clan chiefs, district commissioners and members of district development committees and line ministries. These personnel need education on their duties and responsibilities, planning and coordination, good governance best practices, financial management skills, computer literacy and other courses. County employees are also in need of better incentive packages.

District Development Committees

Currently all six districts of River Cess County have their respective District Development Committee.

Judiciary

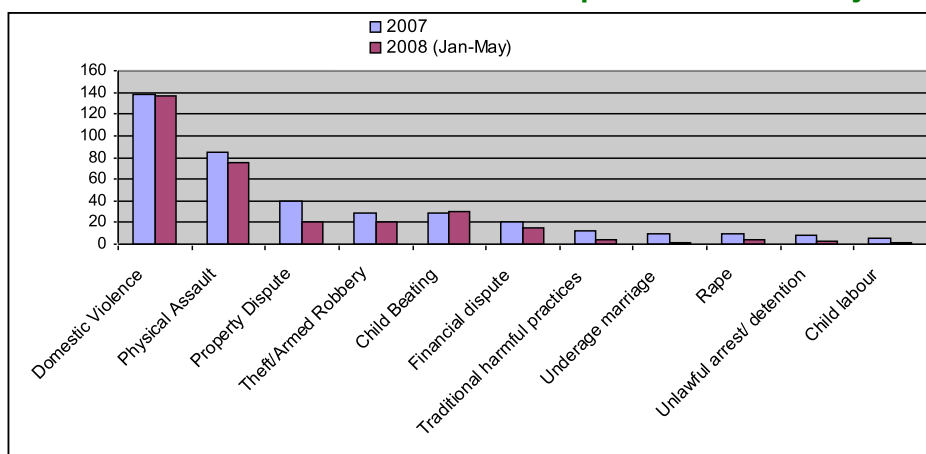
The County's formal legal system also suffers from major capacity and infrastructural constraints. The only court facilities in the County are located in Timbo District. Currently no justice of the peace court facilities exist. The CDA consultations saw citizens calling for enforcement of the laws governing the deployment of qualified judges, namely that the magistrates, the city solicitor, the County attorney, and defense attorneys should all be law school graduates.

Table 15: Court Facilities

Activities	Timbo District	Morweh District
Formal Justice system		
- Magisterial Court	2	0
- Justice of the peace	0	0

Source: NRC Needs Assessment Survey January 2007

Number of Protection Incidents Reported in the County



UNHCR/NRC Protection Monitoring Project

Interventions: Governance and Rule of Law

Issue	Interventions	Delivery Date	Lead Ministry / Agency
Goal: To build and operate efficient and effective institutions and systems, in partnership with the citizens, that will promote and uphold democratic governance, accountability, justice for all and strengthen peace			
Strategic objective 1: To increase and enhance citizen participation in and ownership of government policy formulation and implementation			
Given the current constitutional provisions, political and economic decision-making have taken a top-down approach for a long time with local leadership and actors playing a limited role in the process that impact their lives which has led to wide spread poverty and non-accountability in the use of public resources.	Increase the number of workshops and public sensitizations on human rights, community policing, the rule of law, social reintegration, good citizenship and development	2008-2012	MIA
	Raise awareness and sensitize communities on the needs of people living with disabilities, and to devise local-level plans of action to meet the needs	2008-2012	MOH
Strategic objective 2: To strengthen and enhance the effectiveness and efficiency of public institutions and functionaries			
Public institutions, for the most part, have been bloated, disorganized, weak and supportive of corrupt practices.	Build the capacity of judiciary to manage their caseload	2008-2012	MOJ
	Offer better conditions of service for the judiciary including living incentives to attract more qualified people to the profession	2008-2012	MOJ
	Train and deploy an adequate number of qualified male and female judges to staff all of the County's courts	2008-2012	MOJ
Strategic objective 3: To expand access to justice, and enhance the protection and promotion of human rights under the Laws of Liberia			
There are significant shortcomings in the protection and promotion of human rights, and there is a lack of equal access to the justice system, as well as minimal public understanding of citizens' rights under the law.	Construct and equip magisterial courts in: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Timbo City at Timbo beach • Garpue City at central River Cess District • Zeebozohn City in Yarnee statutory district • Borgeezay City in Morweh statutory district • Darsaw Town in Cestos City 	2008-2012	MOJ
	Rehabilitate detention and correction facilities and deploy fully-equipped Bureau of Corrections and Rehabilitation officers	2008-2012	Corrections



2.5 Infrastructure and Basic Services Pillar

River Cess County is one of the most isolated places in Liberia, and infrastructure and basic services are woefully inadequate. Roads are abysmal, there is no organized transport system, access to safe drinking water and sanitation facilities is minimal, and the health care and education systems are under-staffed and under-resourced.

Roads and Bridges

As in the other 14 counties of Liberia, roads were identified as the primary development concern of the citizens. The roads around the County are in a sorry state, resulting in hundreds of villages inaccessible by car, resulting in generalized deprivation and economic stagnation.



Table 16: Villages inaccessible by car

Activities	Timbo district	Morweh District
Number of villages not accessible by car	150	57

Source: NRC Needs Assessment Report January 2007

Energy

Some ten years ago, Cestos City was one of the few areas of the country connected to an electrical grid, relying on a generator that is now out of order. H.E. President Johnson Sirleaf has provided a generator for the County but it is currently not in use because few consumers can afford to pay their bill and keep it running. Potential for hydropower exists, calling for a feasibility study.



Telecommunications

In general, dissemination of information is extremely slow in the County, not least because of the poor and non-existent roads. River Cess is the only county in Liberia currently without the services of a GSM Mobile network. There are no newspapers or postal services. Francis Hospital once had an HF link with several Clinics in the districts, but this was lost in the war. The County is served by only one radio station, River Cess Broad Casting Services, which is supported by MercyCorps and UNMIL.

Health

The entire County is served by only ten health care facilities (NRC Needs Assessment Survey, January 2007). Five of these facilities are located in Morweh District (Blowhen Sayon, Gbeh Wodobli, Ziadue, Zammie and Zeegar Town), and the remaining five can be found in Timbo Statutory District (Bargbeh Town, Cestos City, Guewein, Neezuin and Sawkon). The County does not have an assigned doctor, and most health workers are untrained or poorly-trained volunteers. Health facilities need to be renovated and refurbished with hospital equipment and regular supplies of drugs. Malaria is reported to be the major cause of mortality in the County and there are regular incidences of cholera, measles, and respiratory infections. Antenatal natal care is almost totally unavailable, with a record 80% of births taking place in private homes (UNMIL Civil Affairs Profile, 2005). The closest hospital is the Government facility in Buchanan, and the bad roads and lack of transportation often result in the death of patients.



Table 17: Population per Health Facility

River Cess			
District	Total	Health Facility in use	Number of people per functioning health facility
Morweh	47712	5	9542 per functioning health facility
Timbo	77053	5	15410 per functioning health facility
Total	124765	10	12476 per functioning health facility

Source: NRC's population data

Table 18: Presence of MOH assigned health workers in the County

District	Est. Pop.	Est. Pop. Per clinic	No. of clinics needed	Pre-war number of clinics	Clinics functioning & being rehabilitated	Gaps (No. of clinics needed)
Timbo	17697	4191	6	4	4	6
Central C'	9731	3955	5	3	3	5
Dodain	18565	6188	4	3	1	3
Jo-river	25070	6283	7	0	4	7
Jowein	15421	7371	4	0	2	4
Yarnee	8978	4494	8	0	0	8

Source: Ministry of Health and Social Welfare

HIV and AIDS

Accurate data on HIV and AIDS prevalence does not exist for River Cess or any of Liberia's rural counties. The National Aids Control program (NACP) deliberately guides against publishing County specific information/data of HIV and AIDS in order to prevent the stigmatization of particular tribal groups. HIV and AIDS prevalence analyses are instead done by health facilities, age groupings and sex. The closest thing to County-level information is health center records, which do not give a true picture of the prevalence rate.

The County is in dire need of a Voluntary Counselling and Testing Center (VCT) and services for people living with HIV and AIDS (PLWHA). The Global Fund on HIV has expressed its intention to help strengthen health systems and HIV programs; building the capacity of public and private health facilities at the County and district levels, increasing care and support for PLWHA and their families, expanding VCT services, sexually transmitted infection (STI) services, antiretroviral (ARV) treatment and services to prevent mother-to-child transmission (PMTCT).

Water and Sanitation

There is no public facility for the provision of safe drinking water anywhere in the County. The majority of the population takes its water from forest creeks and rivers for drinking and other household use. Hand pumps and wells used by the populace before the war have been mostly damaged or are in a state of disrepair. Humanitarian agencies including the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) and Action Contre la Faime have renovated old wells and installing hand pumps in some areas, but the work stopped in 2005.

Table 19: WATSAN Facilities in the County

Number of hand pumps	Number of Wells	Number of latrines
75	225	325

Source: Ministry of Health, March 2007

LISGIS population and households' projection 2006 for River Cess County are as follows: 30,165 and 5,027.49 respectively. From these figure we derive the below findings:

Population and household ratio to facilities:

Table 20: Population ratio

Hand pump	Wells	Latrines
67-1	22-1	15.5-1

Table 21: Household ratio

Water Points	Wells	Latrines
402-1	134-1	93-1

Source: Ministry of Health (MOH)

From the above figures, we see there is an urgent need for additional intervention in WATSAN to reduce the risk of water-borne diseases.

Table 22: Hand Pump to Population Ratio

District	Total	Hand pumps in use	Number of people per hand pump
Morweh	47712	30	1590 per one hand pump
Timbo	77053	41	1879 per one hand pump
Total	124765	71	1757 per one hand pump

Source: Norwegian Refugee Council, January 2007

According to the UNMIL Civil Affairs River Cess County Profile (2005), about 90 percent of the population is without latrine facilities. Bushes and streams are used as public toilets. The few humanitarian actors in the water and sanitation sector operating in River Cess (mainly ICRC, in collaboration with the Liberian National Red Cross Society); have focused more on the water sector than the sanitation sector.

Table 23: NRC's Sanitation Data

River Cess			
District	Total	Latrine in use	Number of people per latrine
Morweh	47712	12	3976 per one latrine
Timbo	77053	76	1013 per one latrine
Total	124765	88	1417 per one latrine

Source: Norwegian Refugee Council, January 2007

Housing

Economic improvements imply population increases, which will require more housing. The little proper housing was destroyed in the war, and the acute lack of housing in Cestos urges strangers to "hurry up and leave."

Interventions: Infrastructure and Basic Services

Issue	Interventions	Delivery Date	Lead Ministry / Agency
Goal: The rehabilitation of infrastructure and the rebuilding of systems to deliver basic services in order to create the conditions and linkages needed to achieve broad-based growth and poverty reduction.			
Strategic Objective 1: To ensure all roads are pliable year round, refurbish some public buildings and build capacity necessary for sustained road maintenance program			
The county's road network is in a state of near-total deterioration. Many needed public buildings are either non-existent or in need of rehabilitation.	Rehabilitate bridges and roads across the County, per the County Action Plan	2008-2012	MPW
	Construct and equip office complexes at Yarpah and Borgeezay Cities to accommodate the following services: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Forestry Development Authority agents • MLME agents • BIN agents • Revenue agents • Liberia Produce Marketing Corporation agent(s) 	2008-2012	MIA, Agencies
	Construct postal stations at the following localities: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cestos City • Garpue Town • Timbo Beach • Yarpah town • Krakpo • Borgeezay city • Zeebozohn 	2008-2012	MPT
	Construct administrative buildings and district superintendent's residences at: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Timbo City at Timbo beach • Garpue city at central River Cess District • Zeebozohn city in Yarnee statutory district • Borgeezay city in Morweh statutory district • Yarnee district in Zeebozohn 	2008-2012	MIA
	Construct smaller administrative units at civil compound of the eight administrative district headquarters	2008-2012	MIA
	Construct auditoriums at all statutory district headquarters and town halls at all administrative civil compounds	2008-2012	MIA
Strategic Objective 2: To reduce the water and sanitation-related disease burden in Liberia			
Only about 42% of the Liberian population has access to improved drinking water, Only about 39% of the population has adequate means of human waste collection, Operation of water and sanitation facilities currently unsustainable	Construct or rehabilitate latrines and hand pumps in adequate numbers to serve the population	2008-2012	MPW
	Carry out a survey of public wells and latrines to determine if the communities are using them properly, and sensitize the communities on their proper use	2008-2012	MPW
Objective 3: To expand access to basic health care of acceptable quality and establish the building blocks of an equitable, effective, efficient, responsive and sustainable health care delivery system.			
Liberia has a health workforce ratio of only 0.18 per 100,000 people. Access to health services is estimated to be 41 percent. Many of the current facilities are not equipped or designed for an optimal level of service delivery.	Carry out a survey of health facilities to determine the number of trained health personnel, availability of drugs, future management arrangement plans, and availability of clean drinking water and sanitation facilities	2008-2012	MOH
	Construct health facilities and stock them with appropriate equipment, logistics, drugs, and trained staff, per the County Development Plan annexed below	2008-2012	MOH
	Provide four ambulances for a referral hospital to be located at Cestos city, or enough ambulances to adequately serve the rural population	2008-2012	MOH
	Organize workshops for the various groups in the County to enhance their understanding about HIV and AIDS	2008-2012	MOH

Issue	Interventions	Delivery Date	Lead Ministry / Agency
Objective 4: To provide access to quality and relevant educational opportunities at all levels and to all, in support of the social and economic development of the nation			
Access is severely limited due to insufficient facilities and supplies, facilities disproportionately located out of reach for some regions. Only one third of primary teachers in public schools have been trained. Enrollment rates remain low, especially for girls. Only a small number successfully make the transition from primary to secondary education.	Rehabilitate or construct schools in adequate numbers to serve the population per the County Action Plan	2008-2012	MOE
	Stock all schools with adequate materials and furniture, WATSAN facilities, teachers' quarters Provide all untrained teachers with adequate training	2008-2012	MOE
	Carry out a survey to ascertain the amount of trained teachers, books and materials needed, and to determine the number of girls and boys in each school	2008-2012	MOE
	Improve the incentives for teachers, especially those working in remote areas	2008-2012	MOE
	Construct vocational school(s) in Cestos City	2008-2012	MOE, MOL
	Establish learning institutions that cater to people living with disabilities, and offer targeted scholarships for persons with disabilities for attending other educational institutions	2008-2012	MOE
Objective 5: To provide reliable, sustainable and affordable energy services to all Liberians in an environmentally sound manner			
Grid electricity is non-existent outside Monrovia.	Conduct a feasibility study on the installation of hydroelectric power plant(s) near the Cispan Falls	2008-2012	MLME



2.6 Cross-Cutting Issues

In the public consultations that led to the development of the CDAs and the PRS, participants managed to identify a set of six cross-cutting themes for consideration in implementing local and national development plans: Gender Equity; HIV and AIDS; Peacebuilding; Environment; Children and Youth, and Human Rights. As part of the effort to mainstream these issues into all the development initiatives at the County level, this section lays out the context and objectives for each. The greater PRS document addresses in detail the specific steps to be taken under the four Pillars to address each of the cross-cutting issues.

Gender Equity

The County is strongly committed to gender equity as a means to maintain peace, reduce poverty, enhance justice and promote development. Despite the progress since the end of the war, gender continues to play a decisive role in determining access to resources and services. Women and girls continue to have limited access to education, health services and judicial services, which has severely curtailed their participation in the formal economy. Women and girls have been missing out on opportunities and participation in management and decision-making on all levels of the society. This trend has contributed to feminization of poverty in the County, and in Liberia as a whole.



Sexual gender-based violence (SGBV) is blight on Liberian society and for many Liberian women and girls, the appalling violence they experienced during wartime still occur. Currently, rape is the most frequently reported serious crime in Liberia. In 2007, 38% of the protection cases reported by UNHCR/NRC monitors were SGBV related

and reports from 2008 show similar trend. Domestic violence is endemic (26% of all reported protection cases) and Liberia has among the highest rates of teenage pregnancy in the world. Of the 348 protection incidents reported in the County during January-May 2008, 41.7% and 39.4% relate to SGBV and domestic violence respectively.

Destruction of institutions during the war affected all Liberians, but particularly limited women's and girls' access to education; today, the ratio of girls' to boys' enrolment is 95/100 at the primary level, decreasing to 75/100 in secondary schools, and twice as many women as men are illiterate. Despite the laws recognizing equality of the sexes, customary law and practices prevail, some of which are harmful to women and girls. Customary law infringes on women's and girls' rights, including the right to property.

The CDA lays the groundwork for the achievement of gender equity and women's and girls' empowerment, promoting equitable access to resources and benefits. Gender equity considerations will be incorporated in the development and implementation of the economic growth strategy, with the ultimate goal of promoting women's economic empowerment. To build a more effective responsive and supportive legal, social and political environment, including all aspects of protection and access to justice, health care, and education, the CDA includes measures for the prevention of and response to GBV including addressing the roots of the crime and the promotion of increasing the number of women in national security institutions. Toward the building of capacity, the County will support the mandate of the Ministry of Gender and Development (MoGD) to take the lead in implementing and monitoring the National Gender Policy, the PRS, and international conventions as well as to mainstream gender in legal, constitutional, and governance reforms. The County authorities are committed to ensuring that all monitoring data collected are disaggregated by age and sex, where applicable.

Peacebuilding

While the CDA is an important mechanism through which peacebuilding can be integrated into poverty reduction, the CDA is itself an exercise in peacebuilding. The process of preparing the CDA and the PRS through broad-based participation and consultation, reaching consensus, and transparent and accountable decision-making inspires confidence in the government and in peaceful coexistence. These principles are central to building trust and consolidating peace.

While the causes of violent conflict are multi-faceted, deep-rooted and complex, there are six key issue areas which require focused attention in the implementation of the CDA to mitigate their potential to mobilize groups for violent action.

Land conflicts – Land disputes have become a manifestation of conflict over identity and citizenship issues. There is a proliferation of land disputes over tenure and

ownership, the reintegration of refugees and ex-combatants into communities in relation to property, the property rights of women, and private concessions.

Youth – Young men and women have been denied education, have had their transition from childhood to adulthood interrupted by war, have few skills and are often burdened with many of the responsibilities of adults, particularly as heads of households and income earners. Unmet expectations with this group could trigger significant social unrest, not only in County, but across Liberia and the region.

Political polarization – Reaching political consensus on the rules of the game, supporting reconciliation rather than polarization, and de-linking political and economic power are essential.

Management of natural resources – The County's wealth of natural resources has not benefited the citizens as a whole but has served to create inequalities and resentment.

The State and its citizens – The Liberian State historically has been more predatory in nature than protective of its citizens; it created and exacerbated social divisions by marginalizing and denigrating certain social groups, and consolidating the domination of elites.

Weak and dysfunctional justice systems – The formal and customary justice systems do not provide justice and have created a system of impunity.

Integrating peacebuilding into local and national development planning requires the authorities to adopt a new set of principles which are central to the process of democratization, of improving governance and of consolidating peace. The media, civil society organizations, the private sector and all other institutions have an important role to play in ensuring that these principles are upheld:

Meaningful Inclusion and Participation – Creating space for ordinary citizens to speak on the issues that concern them through sustainable processes of consultation is fundamental to peace. This must be inclusive to all ethnic and identity groups such as women and girls, men and boys, ex-combatants, war-affected populations, political parties, and civil society organizations.

Empowerment – In order for all Liberians to participate, disadvantaged, grassroots and rural groups need to be empowered by giving them the tools and capacities to participate and take ownership of decision-making processes.

Consensus building – It is not enough to listen to different perspectives; somehow they must be translated into the public interest as a basis for collective action.

Responsiveness – If no action is taken by local government in response to the concerns expressed by citizens, then the exercise of consultation is futile.

Transparency and accountability – Local government actions must be visible to the public to ensure they are taken in the interest of all citizens and not simply for the sake of any personal or group advancement. The mismanagement of the past, in which a small elite gained economic advantage over the majority, was a key factor in the conflict.

Fairness and impartiality – Rules and opportunities must apply to all citizens equally, regardless of status. The failure of the state in the past to be a fair and impartial mediator was another key source of conflict.

Environmental Issues

The people of the County, and especially the poor, are critically dependent on fertile soil, clean water and healthy ecosystems for their livelihoods and wellbeing. This reliance creates complex, dynamic interactions between environmental conditions, people's access to and control over environmental resources, and poverty. In addition to being vulnerable to environmental hazards, the poor are usually confronted by economic, technological and policy-related barriers in deriving full benefits from their environmental assets. Taking strategic actions based on knowledge of the poverty-environment relationship is a prerequisite for enduring success in the effort to reduce poverty. Investments in the productivity of environmental assets will generate large benefits for the poor and for the enhancement of overall growth.



The CDA lays the foundation for sustainable protection and use of the County's natural environment for the sake of improving livelihoods and wellbeing. The "resource curse" that characterized Liberia's past was typified by mismanagement of the proceeds from extractive industries and their misuse that undermined national security, governance and rule of law; and channeled most of the benefits of economic growth to a small elite. Eliminating this curse requires the establishment or restoration of proper administration and management of natural resource uses.

HIV and AIDS

HIV and AIDS is a major challenge because the epidemic has the potential to slow the progress of many initiatives meant to build much-needed human capital and revitalize the economy. Ensuring that this does not happen requires that the citizens be empowered with the appropriate skills to arrest the spread of HIV and to minimize the impact. Integrating HIV and AIDS into poverty reduction strategies helps to create the necessary policy and planning environment for a comprehensive, multi-sectoral response.

While no County-specific data is available, a 2007 DHS estimates national HIV prevalence at 1.5 percent, or 1.8 percent for females and 1.2 percent for males. A previous estimate of 5.7 percent was based on the results of sentinel surveillance among pregnant women and girls attending ten antenatal care (ANC) clinics in urban areas. Future studies will seek to reconcile these seemingly disparate findings.

In any event, the war left most of the population severely challenged in meeting their social, cultural and economic needs, thereby making them vulnerable to a sharp increase in HIV prevalence, the likely result of which would be a negative impact on development: increased child and adult morbidity and mortality, increased absenteeism at the workplace and in schools, and lower economic output, among other effects.

HIV and AIDS-related vulnerability impacts a broad spectrum of the population, especially young people and females in particular, such that in Liberia as elsewhere, there is an increasing feminization of the epidemic.

By strengthening the health infrastructure at the County level, the CDA works to promote human development by reducing the impact of HIV and AIDS vulnerability, morbidity and mortality. County health and social welfare authorities will participate in the development and implementation of a new national multi-sectoral strategic framework led by the NAC, reducing new HIV infections through the provision of information, and scaling up access to treatment and care services, mitigating the impact of the epidemic on those already infected and affected.



Children and Youth

The County is strongly committed to reducing and laying the groundwork for eliminating child poverty as a key feature of the CDA and PRS. Children are at high risk of becoming the next generation of impoverished citizens unless substantive

measures are taken to break the intergenerational cycle of poverty. Poverty reduction efforts must have children at the core.

Children make up the majority of the population of the County. Nationally, around 17 percent of child deaths are attributable to malaria and another 20 percent to preventable environmental diseases such as diarrhea and cholera. Almost forty percent of children are growth-stunted from poor nutrition, about one third of under-fives are severely underweight, and recent estimates indicate that one in five deaths in children under-five is attributable to malnutrition. Less than half of all births are delivered by a health professional, which contributes to an unacceptably high (and apparently rising) maternal mortality rate.

Furthermore, young female citizens suffer the brunt of the epidemic of gender based violence (GBV). The majority of girls have their first child before reaching the age of 18 due to forced early marriages and rape. As a result, the HIV infection rate among pregnant female adolescents and young women was 5.7 percent in 2007.

Many of the young people have spent more time engaged in war than in school. Nationally, almost 35 percent of the population has never attended school, including nearly 44 percent of females. Illiteracy rates among children and young people remain high at 68 percent (male 55 percent and female 81 percent).

As discussed above, only a fraction of classrooms in the County is in good condition with furniture and functioning latrines, and textbooks are scarce. With educational levels low and youth unemployment on the increase, the County's young people lack the necessary tools to make productive contributions to the social and economic development of the nation.

Children and youth also have limited access to justice or the protection and enforcement of their rights under the legal system. Protecting the rights of children will contribute to achieving poverty reduction goals and ensure the active participation of children and young people in supporting good governance and the growth agenda over the long term.

County authorities will make special efforts to ensure that its institutions, policies and processes consider the needs of children and youth as a priority by implementing a human rights approach to development and an inclusive and participatory governance structure.

Human Rights

The Government of Liberia and County authorities are deeply committed to upholding internationally-recognized human rights standards. After many years of generalized deprivation and rampant, even systematic abuses, the country has made important progress towards the fulfillment of its human rights obligations. The overall security situation is now stable, control has been asserted in areas previously held by rebel groups, and a Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC) has been established.

The actions called for in this CDA and in the PRS 2008-2011 are intended to make further progress toward addressing the many human rights concerns that remain. Limited access to justice, and weak judicial and security systems continue to lead to incidents of mob justice, trial by ordeal, prolonged pre-trial detentions, and overcrowding in prisons. Access to quality health care and education is a constant challenge for most rural residents, as the number of schools, hospitals and qualified personnel do not meet basic needs. The epidemic of violence and harmful traditional practices against women and girls continues in spite of the enactment of a new rape law and other legislation.

As evidenced throughout the PRS, the Government will continue to enact progressive legislation and take policy steps toward the furtherance of human rights. Local and national officeholders will hold personnel of all sectors accountable to uphold international human rights standards. Civil society organizations and the private sector will play an important role not only in supporting government efforts in the human rights realm, but also in offering constructive input to policy development and implementation.





PART THREE - IMPLEMENTATION

3.1 Principle Guide for County Development Funding

Being the embodiment of the needs and aspirations of the citizens of the County, and having been developed through a participatory process based on the input of a wide variety of stakeholders in the public, civil society, the private sector, and local and national government, the CDA can and must be taken as the principal guide to funding for development activities in the County. The projects and priorities identified above are those which should be the principal targets for funding from the County Development Fund, from donors and from local and international development partners during the CDA implementation period.

3.2 Building Capacity

The low capacity of the County's public and private institutions continues to be a constraint on effectiveness and development in general. The combination over many years of political patronage and conflict has left the County with high numbers of unskilled workers with little technical or professional capacity to produce goods and deliver services.

Over the implementation period of the CDA, agriculture and natural resource-based sectors will drive growth, but their continued development will require a more capable work force. As security conditions and basic services improve, members of the Diaspora may return and inject capacity within certain sectors, but the Government and the County must proactively take steps to increase capacity through strategic interventions, including vocational training and adult education.

The first hurdle in dealing with this lack of capacity is identifying personnel that are capable of addressing the problems. The Civil Service Agency (CSA) and other institutions which are trying to close the human capacity gap face the same constraints and challenges as other ministries and agencies. To be successful, qualified Liberians from across the Government must be recruited to engage in and lead the process and maximize transfer of knowledge and skills through on-the-job training. Donor and civil society assistance has and will continue to play a central role in supporting this process. Reforming the civil service and building human capacity across public institutions are components of a broader public sector reform process, which will address structural and institutional inefficiencies.

There are no quick fixes. The Government will develop a 10-year capacity building plan to organize national efforts and leverage support for Liberia's capacity development programs. This plan, to be completed in 2009, will articulate well-sequenced, strategic interventions to stimulate capacity development within the private and public sectors and to reform the civil service.

3.3 Managing Potential Risks and Constraints

A number of risks and constraints could derail the implementation of the CDA and frustrate the effort toward generating rapid, inclusive and sustainable growth. The major ones include shortfalls in external financing, limited leadership as well as administrative and technical capacity, and external and internal instability. Although these risks and constraints are real, the potential consequences arising from them can be reduced through their identification and the implementation of mitigation strategies.

3.4 Monitoring and Evaluation

To ensure successful implementation of the CDA/PRS, a transparent and effective monitoring and evaluation system is required. While the County Development Steering Committees (CDSCs) have a central role in coordinating the CDA/PRS implementation, this forum, chaired by Superintendent and comprised of all line ministries and agencies as well as development partners in the county, is responsible for tracking progress towards CDA goals and objectives.

The Poverty Reduction Strategy (PRS) document (Chapter 13) outlines the institutional framework and reporting mechanisms for monitoring of PRS key output and outcome indicators. This framework and the PRS Monitoring and Evaluation Indicators (see hereafter) have been developed through stakeholder consultations led by the PRS M&E working group chaired by LISGIS and LRDC Secretariat. To track progress and achievements towards the targets set in the PRS, outcomes as well as deliverables need to be monitored.

The baseline data have been generated for most of indicators, drawing where possible on quantitative and qualitative surveys conducted by LISGIS over the last year, including the Core Welfare Indicator Questionnaire (CWIQ), the Demographic Health Survey (DHS) and Poverty Participatory Assessment (PPA). In some instances where baselines are not yet available, ministries and agencies will insure that those are being collected. Recently completed National Population and Housing Census will further provide a rich socio-economic data set disaggregated per county, district and even down to clan level.

Tapping Dormant Human Capital: Changing Minds, Changing Attitudes

*"In order to revitalize the economy, we ourselves have to transform our view of what government is."
– Hon. Julia Duncan Cassell, Superintendent, Grand Bassa County*

Much of Liberia's human capital sits idle as capable Liberians wait for someone – the Government, NGOs, or others – to improve their lives. A central thrust over the near term will be to encourage citizens to trade their feelings of dependency for a commitment to hard work and self-reliance.

In March 2008, the President stated, "Government can strive to create an enabling environment, to create the avenues for success. But it is you who must seize these opportunities, you who must put in the hard work to make our collective dream a reality. You must not wait for the Government to make your life better, but rather work to better your own life."

Through labor-based public works, SME support programs, work ethics lessons in the primary school curriculum, and other means, the PRS implementation period will stress the need for active commitment and hard work to reduce poverty. Poverty will only be reduced if the people themselves play an active role in governance, and in laboring to improve their own lives. In this context, the Ministry of Information, Culture, and Tourism is pursuing an agenda it calls "Changing Minds, Changing Attitudes". Liberia will only be as strong as the hearts, minds, and working hands of its people.

Monitoring impact

At the national level LRDC Secretariat will be the key institution responsible for Monitoring and Evaluation of the PRS. Together with LISGIS, responsible for national statistics, the LRDC Secretariat will produce annual reports on progress towards each of the indicators for review by the Pillars, the Cabinet and the LRDC Steering Committee. The information will be published as part of Annual National PRS Progress Report for public dissemination and discussion, including at the county level.

Further LRDC and LISGIS will issue a periodic report based on County-disaggregated data emerging from line ministries and surveys conducted at national level. Along with administrative data and statistics collected at the county level, it will insure that County officials have quality data at their disposal, assisting with the CDA implementation.

Monitoring deliverables

Projects and programs under the PRS deliverables will be implemented at the county level. County authorities will play an essential role in contributing to the regular reports on PRS deliverables that will allow the Government and partners through Cabinet and LRDC Steering Committee to make adjustment to programs and activities where necessary.

The PRS took into account the county perspective and its development projects emanate from the CDAs where possible. Therefore, when county authorities track progress towards implementation of the CDA action matrixes (in Annex), they will at the same time provide input into monitoring of the PRS deliverables.

Both for the PRS and CDA, program and project level M&E reporting will originate from line ministry/agency representatives at the county level who will share their reports with the Office of the County Superintendent in addition to their respective ministries/agencies. These reports and information will be shared by the Office of the County Superintendent at the county level, among others through the CDSC meetings.

Strengthening the M&E Foundation

Over the implementation period for the PRS and CDA, the Government together with partners are committed to strengthen and support monitoring and evaluation capacity and institutional framework at the county level. The CDSC as the coordinating forum for implementation of PRS/CDA at the county level is in process of being established. County authorities capacity for information management and monitoring will be built, based on on-going initiatives.

Together with County Acton Matrix developed through CDA process, PRS M&E indicators provide the tool for monitoring at the county level. It will be accompanied with detailed manual on what information and data that are required and how it will be collected/compiled for tracking the progress towards these indicators and outputs.

Indicator	Type	Baseline	Target ¹	Target Date	Source of Verification	Lead Ministry/ Agency	MDG Related?
Pillar I: Security							
Annual NSSRL-IM benchmarks achieved	Outcome	National Security Threat Assessment	Achieve all benchmarks annually	Annual	NSSRL Annual Validation Report	MoD	-
Percent of the population that perceives the security situation to be better than in the previous year ²	Outcome	50%	60% each year	Annual	CWIQ	MoD, MoJ	-
Police:population ratio ³ (Population assumed at CWIQ estimate of 2,705,385)	Output	1:775	1:700	End of PRS Period	LNP Quarterly/ Annual Report	LNP	-
Ratio of arrests to reported major/violent crime	Outcome	1:1.79	1:1	End of PRS Period	LNP Quarterly/ Annual Report	LNP	-
Number of fully staffed BIN key border posts	Output	18	36	End of PRS Period	NSSRL-IM Annual Validation Report	BIN	-
Pillar II: Economic Revitalization							
Poverty							
Percent of population below national poverty line ⁴	Outcome	64%	60%	End of PRS Period	CWIQ	LISGIS	MDG 1
Incidence of extreme poverty ⁵	Outcome	48%	44%	End of PRS Period	CWIQ	LISGIS	MDG 1
Growth and Macroeconomic Framework							
Real GDP (USD)	Outcome	195.2	2008: 775.2 2009: 867.5 2010: 999.7 2011: 1175.3	Annual	Surveys (“National Accounts” in the future)	CBL	MDG 8
Export of goods, f.o.b. (Millions of USD)	Output	2007: 227	2008: 333 2009: 498 2010: 760 2011: 1027	Annual	Balance of Payments	CBL	MDG 8
Foreign Direct Investment (Millions of USD)	Output	2007: 120	2008: 397 2009: 407 2010: 339 2011: 339	Annual	Balance of Payments	CBL	-
Consumer Price Index (% change)	Outcome	9%	2008: 10.6% 2009: 9.0% 2010: 8.0% 2011: 7.0%	Annual	Harmonized Consumer Price Index (HCPI)	CBL	-

¹ Anticipated date for achievement of target.
² This indicator will also be tracked on a disaggregated basis by sex.
³ This indicator will also be tracked on a disaggregated basis by county and number of female officers.
⁴ This indicator will also be tracked on a disaggregated basis by age of the individual, female/male head of household, and urban/rural.
⁵ This indicator will also be tracked on a disaggregated basis by age of the individual, female/male head of household, and urban/rural.

Indicator	Type	Baseline	Target ¹	Target Date	Source of Verification	Lead Ministry/ Agency	MDG Related?
Agriculture							
Volume of agricultural production (% growth), disaggregated by food and non-food crops, number of acres of land cultivation (commercial/private farms)	Output	7%	2008: 3.6% 2009: 3.7% 2010: 3.8% 2011: 3.8%	Annual	MoA	MoA	-
Forestry							
Volume of timber products [categories to be specified by FDA] produced (in '000 cubic meters)	Output	0	FY 08/09: 536 FY 09/10: 903 FY 10/11: 1327	Annual	FDA	FDA	-
Mining							
Volume of iron ore produced	Output	0	3 million tons	End of PRS Period	MLME	MLME	-
Land and Environment							
Review and reform by Land Commission of all aspects of land policy, law, and administration	Output	N/A	Completed reform of land policy, law, and administration	End of PRS Period	Land Commission annual report	GC, LC (when established)	-
Private Sector Investment							
Number of new businesses registered ⁶	Output	2007: 1047, 172	(Increase of 15% per year) 2008: 1204, 197 2009: 1227, 226 2010: 1411, 260 2011: 1622, 299	Annual	MoCI Annual Report	MoCI, NIC	-
Financial Sector							
Banking system deposits/GDP (%)	Output	21.4%	30.0%	End of PRS Period	CBL	CBL	-
Non-performing loans as a percent of total assets of the banking system (%)	Output	31.0%	15.0%	End of PRS Period	CBL	CBL	-
Employment							
Employment rate (% above the baseline as determined by MoL 2008/2009 labor market survey) ⁷	Outcome	TBD	TBD	Annual	MoL labor market survey	MoL	-
Wage employment in the non-agricultural sector (% of total employment)	Outcome	TBD	TBD	Annual	MoL labor market survey	MoL	-
State Owned Enterprises							
Net total transfers to SOEs/ parastatals as % of Government revenue	Output	2.4%	1%	Annual	National Budget	MoF, BoB	-

⁶ This indicator will also be tracked on a disaggregated basis by Liberian/foreign-owned.

⁷ This indicator will also be tracked on a disaggregated basis by sex and age.

Indicator	Type	Baseline	Target ¹	Target Date	Source of Verification	Lead Ministry/ Agency	MDG Related?
Pillar III: Governance and Rule of Law							
Governance Reform							
% of public expenditure transferred to local authorities ⁸	Outcome	6.1%	2009: 6.6% 2010: 7.1% 2011: 7.7%	Annual	National Budget	MIA	-
Percent of the population that perceives the Government of Liberia to be performing better than in the previous year	Outcome	TBD	60% Annually	Annual	Question will be added to future CWIQ surveys	CSA	-
Number of ministries, agencies and SOEs/ parastatals restructured based on revised, published and adopted mandates	Output	0	TBD	End of PRS Period	GC status report	GC, CSA	-
Score on Transparency International Corruption Perception Index	Outcome	2.1 out of 10	4.0 out of 10	End of PRS Period	Transparency International Corruption Perception Index	GC, ACC	-
Rule of Law							
Number of beneficiaries of legal aid (civil/criminal)	Output	TBD	TBD	Annual	TBD	MoJ	-
Number of Circuit Courts and Magisterial Courts rehabilitated/constructed and functioning (judged by whether a legal proceeding has been completed in that court)	Output	Circuit Courts: 7 of 15 Magisterial Courts: 5 of 124	Circuit Courts: 13 of 15 Magisterial Courts: 43 of 124	End of PRS Period	Judiciary Quarterly and Annual Reports/GC Status Reports	Judiciary, MoJ	-
Number of Judicial Officers trained and deployed at Circuit/Magisterial Courts (disaggregated by gender)	Output	336 Magistrates 22 Justices of the Peace	403 Magistrates 27 Justices of the Peace	End of PRS Period	Judiciary Quarterly and Annual Reports/MoJ Annual Reports	Judiciary, MoJ	-
% of Juvenile Offenders with access to rehabilitation services	Output	TBD	TBD	End of PRS Period	Judiciary Quarterly and Annual Reports/GC Status Reports	Judiciary, MoJ	-
% of cases successfully prosecuted	Output	21%	32% (Increase of 50%)	End of PRS Period	Judiciary Quarterly and Annual Reports/GC Status Reports	Judiciary, MoJ	-

⁸ This indicator will also be tracked on a disaggregated basis by county.

Indicator	Type	Baseline	Target ¹	Target Date	Source of Verification	Lead Ministry/ Agency	MDG Related?
Pillar IV: Infrastructure and Basic Services							
Roads and Bridges							
Number of new miles of roads rehabilitated/reconstructed ⁹	Output	N/A	Total primary: 1,187 miles (1,075 to be paved, surface dressing) All weather secondary roads: 300 miles Feeder roads: 400 miles Neighborhood roads: 212 miles	End of PRS Period	MPW progress reports	MPW	-
Person-months of roadwork employment created per year	Output	24,120 person-months/year	45,288 person-months/year	Annual	MPW reports	MPW	-
Transportation							
Number of buses regularly operating in Monrovia.	Output	9	70	End of PRS Period	MTA Annual Report	MTA	-
Number of vessels entering and clearing Freeport of Monrovia per month	Output	28	32	End of PRS Period	NPA Monthly Statistics on Cargo and Vessel Traffic	MoT, NPA	-
Water and Sanitation							
Access to safe drinking water ¹⁰	Outcome	25% ¹⁰	Increase by 25% (to 50%)	End of PRS Period	VPA, UNICEF, CWIQ	MPW	MDG 7
Access to improved sanitation ¹¹	Outcome	15% ¹¹	Increase by 25% (to 40%)	End of PRS Period	VPA, UNICEF	MPW	MDG 7
Health							
Child mortality rate	Outcome	111 per 1000	Reduce by 15% (to 94/1000)	End of PRS Period	DHS	MoHSW	MDG 4
Maternal mortality rate	Outcome	994 per 100,000 live births	Reduce by 10% (to 895/100,000)	End of PRS Period	DHS	MoHSW	MDG 5
Child malnutrition (% of children under 5) (stunting, wasting, height for age, weight for height, weight for age)	Outcome	Height for age: 39% Weight for height: 7% Weight for age: 19%	Improve weight for age by 15%	End of PRS Period	DHS	MoHSW	MDG 1

⁹ This indicator will also be tracked on a disaggregated basis by type: all-weather, feeder, neighborhood roads.

¹⁰ The CWIQ resulted in far higher figures for access to safe drinking water and improved sanitation than the 2004 Village Profile Assessment (VPA). Several sources of data in this area exist and are not necessarily comparable. Baselines and targets for these indicators may be adjusted during the PRS implementation period.

¹¹ Ibid

Indicator	Type	Baseline	Target ¹	Target Date	Source of Verification	Lead Ministry/ Agency	MDG Related?
Contraceptive prevalence rate (disaggregated by method: any method, condom, pills, etc.)	Output	Any method: 11% Condom: 1.6%	15% (any method)	End of PRS Period	DHS	MoHSW	MDG 6
HIV prevalence rate (disaggregated by sex and age)	Outcome	1.5%	Contain rate (no increase)	End of PRS Period	DHS	MoHSW	MDG 6
Doctors per 1000 persons	Output	0.03 (2006)	0.06	End of PRS Period	MoHSW Rapid Assessment	MoHSW	-
Nurse per 1000 persons	Output	0.18 (2006)	0.36	End of PRS Period	MoHSW Rapid Assessment	MoHSW	-
Midwives per 1000 persons	Output	0.12 (2006)	0.24	End of PRS Period	MoHSW Rapid Assessment	MoHSW	-
Education							
Net enrollment ratio in primary education (disaggregated by gender)	Outcome	Primary: 37% Secondary: 15%	Primary: 44.8% Secondary: 20%	End of PRS Period	CWIQ	MoE/LISGIS	MDG 2
Gender Parity Index in primary enrollment	Outcome	43 girls for every 100 boys	48 girls for every 100 boys	End of PRS Period	2007-2008 School Census	MoE/LISGIS	MDG 3
Teacher to student ratio	Output	1:35	1:45 ¹²	End of PRS Period	2007-2008 School Census	MoE	-
Youth literacy rate	Outcome	73%	85%	End of PRS Period	CWIQ	MoE/LISGIS	-
Energy							
Percentage of households with access to electricity	Outcome	0.6%	10.0%	End of PRS Period	MLME/LEC Annual Report	MLME, LEC	-
Total installed capacity (MW)	Output	2.6 MW	29.6 MW	End of PRS Period	MLME/LEC Annual Report	MLME, LEC	-
Percentage of rural households with access to electricity	Outcome	0.0%	2.0%	End of PRS Period	MLME/LEC Annual Report	MLME, LEC	-
Regional or cross border interconnectivity (miles of cross border transmission lines)	Output	0 miles	150 miles	End of PRS Period	MLME/LEC Annual Report	MLME, LEC	-
Post and Telecommunications							
Universal Access telecommunications coverage throughout Liberia	Outcome	14.9%	2009: 17.9% 2010: 21.5% 2011: 25.8%	Annual	Annual Blycroft Estimates Report	LTC, LTA	-
% of the population with local access to postal services	Outcome	2%	70%	End of PRS Period	MPT Annual Report	MPT, UPU	-

¹² The teacher-to-student ratio is projected to rise from 1:35 to 1:45 for two reasons: concerns about the accuracy of the baseline figure and the expected increase in enrollment over the next three years.

Indicator	Type	Baseline	Target ¹	Target Date	Source of Verification	Lead Ministry/ Agency	MDG Related?
Urban and Other Infrastructure							
Additional units of low-income housing constructed	Output	1,700 units	Construct 300 units to reach total of 2,000	End of PRS Period	NHA Annual Report	NHA	-
Administration buildings and palava huts constructed and rehabilitated.	Output	TBD	New or rehabilitated administration buildings in 45 districts and new or rehabilitated palava huts in 126 districts	End of PRS Period	Quarterly count reports	MIA	-



ANNEX 1. RIVER CESS COUNTY ACTION PLAN

River Cess County Action Plan		Location		Lead	Collaborating Partner	Time Frame		Est. Cost	Contribution of Community
Challenges	Action Required	District	Clan/Township/City			Start	End		
Roads		Zarflahn	Darsaw to Cispan Falls	Citizens	GoL and partners	2008	2009		Citizens will provide unskilled labor, food, sometime fuel
Roads		Fehn	Little Liberia to Timbo, Charlie to Timbo						
Roads		Central River Cess	Garpue to Zammie						
Roads	Construction of major high way in the designated upgrading of all feeder roads ;construction and renovation of bridges	Sangbalor	Whadakpor to Neegbai, Kpaqueh to Rockcess						
Roads		Bear Wor	Kpaqueh to Bour, Kpaque to Weh						
Roads		Nyunwein	Kayah to Garpue						
Roads		Dodain	Kargbo to Dehgar, Gbarseleh to Kargbo Durzohn to Zeegar						
Roads		Jo-River	Boe to Gbarseleh, Durzohn to Zeegar, Boe to Keryah, Barchue to Bodo Whea, Bodo Whea to Boboe, Joquah to Mandeh, Bahn to Garpue						
Education	Construction of major high way in the designated areas, upgrading of all feeder roads, construction and renovation of bridges	Zarflahn	Chessman, Korzohn, Parmah, Garwroh	Citizens	GoL and partners	2008	2009		Citizens will provide unskilled labors, food, sometime fuel
Education		Fehn	Garyeazohn, Timbo, Weh, Hamilton,						
Education		Central River Cess	Gbouzohn, Zammie, Karchukon,						
Education		Sangbalor	Teekpeh						
Education	Upgrading all make-shift primary and junior high schools, construction of five high schools (Jo-River, Dodain, Sangbalor, Zarflahn, Nyunwein)	Bear Wor	Klagba, Neegba, Pankloh, Soibor						
Education		Nyunwein	ITI, Faah, Kai, Gorr						
Education		Dodain	Saryah, Bannie, Kahnweh, Gedeh						

River Cess County Action Plan		Location		Lead	Collaborating Partner	Time Frame		Est. Cost	Contribution of Community
Challenges	Action Required	District	Clan/Township/City			Start	End		
Education		Jo-River	Kporkon, Nagbo, Gozohn, Kargbo, Gleozohn, Lakpazec, Bahn, Buduin						
Education	One college in Cestos and four vocational at each statutory district headquarter. And construction of 33 primary schools.	Zarflahn	Cestos City						
Education		Fehn	Garwoh, Gozohn						
Education		Central River Cess	Bardaipourh, Little Liberia						
Health	Upgrading all clinics and construction	Sangbalor	Garpue, Zammie						
Health	Strengthening the capacity of the only hospital (St. Francis) in the County	Bear Wor	Pankloh, Forteah						
Health		Nyunwein	ITI, Gorr						
Health		Dodain	Gbediah, Gbloso						
Health		Jo-River	Kargbo, Sayon						
Health			Zoryea, Bahn						

ANNEX 2. RIVER CESS DISTRICT PRIORITIES

#	District	Priority			Comment
		1 st	2 nd	3 rd	
1	Zarflahn	Road	School	Clinic	
2	Fehn	Road	School	Clinic	
3	Dodain	Road	School	Clinic	
4	C/River Cess	Road	School	Clinic	
5	Jo-River	Road	School	Clinic	
6	Bear Wor	Road	Clinic	School	
7	Sangbalor	Road	Clinic	School	
8	Nyunwein	Road	School	Clinic	
9	Cestos City	Road	Vocational	Housing	City concern varies by district
	Ranking	Road- 100%	School- 90%	Clinic- 75%	

#	District/City	# T/V	Est. Pop	#										Comments
				Ho	WS	HC	HP	Sc	Tea	ST	RA			
1	Central River Cess	31	6866	1140	-	-	3	11	55	3465	-	-	-	
2	Sangbalor	29	6300	1023	-	-	1	1	40	840	-	-	-	
3	Jo-River	41	11277	1880	6	5	6	19	58	3540	-	-	-	
4	Dodain	36	970	1620	5	6	3	23	52	3726	-	-	-	
5	Bear Wor	26	6140	1056	-	-	-	1	6	39	2457	-	-	
6	Fehn	62	7325	1220	1	2	9	28	60	3750	-	-	-	
7	Zarflahn	62	675	1125	5	1	12	16	50	3150	-	-	-	
8	Nyunwein	41	8990	1480	2	2	4	18	54	3240	-	-	-	
9	Cestos City													

T/N=1# of Towns
 Ho =of Houses
 WS =of functional Water System
 HC =of functional Health Care
 HP =of Health Personnel
 SC =f Schools
 Tea = # of teachers: # of students
 Pop = population & RA=Roads accessible.

ANNEX 3: DISTRICT ACTION PLANS

Annex 3.1 Zarlahn District Action Plan

No	Challenge	Action Required	Location		Lead Actor	Partner	Time Frame		Est. Cost USD	Comment
			Clan	Town			Start	End		
1	Road	Construction Rehabilitation	Wholozohn Toboe	Darsaw to Gspan Fall, Mandeh to Neezuin	Citizens	GoL & Partners	April. 2008	Oct. 2009		
2	School	Primary/secondary schools per clan (new)	Kebbeh, Boewein, Toboe, Parmah	Chessman Town, Korzohn, Parmah, Garwroh	Citizens	GoL & Partners	April. 2008	Oct. 2009		
3	Health	20 bed clinic for the four clans	Kebbeh, Boewein, Toboe, Parmah	Little Liberia, Parmah, Garwroh, Korzohn	Citizens	GoL & Partners	April. 2008	Oct. 2009		

Annex 3.2 Fehn District Action Plan

No	Problem	Location		Action Required	Lead Actor	Partner	Time Frame		Est. Cost USD	Comment
		Clan	Town				Start	End		
1	Road	Guah Naway, Mannah, Beorquah, Vor	Charlie to Timbo, Little Liberia to Timbo	Rehabilitation	Citizens	GoL & Partners	April. 2008	Oct. 2009		
2	School	Guah Naway, Mannah, Beorquah, Vor	Guyezohn, Timbo, Wleh, Hamilton,	Primary/secondary schools per clan (new)	Citizens	GoL & Partners	April. 2008	Oct. 2009		
3	Health	Guah Naway, Mannah, Beorquah, Vor	Guyezohn, Timbo, Wleh, Hamilton,	20 bed clinic for the four clans	Citizens	GoL & Partners	April. 2008	Oct. 2009		

Annex 3.3 Nyunwein District Action Plan

No	Problem	Location		Action Required	Lead Actor	Partner	Time Frame		Est. Cost USD	Comment
		Clan	Town				Start	End		
1	Road	Gbarsaw, Kayah, Kahnweh, Wheasay	Garpuie to Boboe town, Logan to Gedeh town	Rehabilitation	Citizens	GoL & Partners	April. 2008	Oct. 2009		
2	School	Gbarsaw, Kayah, Kahnweh, Wheasay	Gbarsaw, Bannic, Gedeh, Boboe	Primary/secondary schools per clan (new)	Citizens	GoL & Partners	April. 2008	Oct. 2009		
3	Health	Gbarsaw, Kayah, Kahnweh, Wheasay	Gbarsaw, Bannic, Gedeh, Boboe	20 bed clinic for the four clans	Citizens	GoL & Partners	April. 2008	Oct. 2009		

Annex 3. 4 Sangbalor District Action Plan

No	Problem	Location		Action Required	Lead Actor	Partner	Time Frame		Est. Cost USD	Comment
		Clan	Town				Start	End		
1	Road	Nagba, Bai Kpowhea, Nagba, Blonce	Blonce to Neegba,	Construction	Citizens	GoL & Partners	April. 2008	Oct. 2009		
2	Clinic	Nagba, Bai Kpowhea, Nagba, Blonce	Panklor, Gorr, Kpowhea, Forteah	Primary/ secondary schools per clan (new)	Citizens	GoL & Partners	April. 2008	Oct. 2009		
3	School	Nagba, Bai Kpowhea, Nagba, Blonce	Panklor, Gorr, Kpowhea, Forteah	20 bed clinic for the four clans	Citizens	GoL & Partners	April. 2008	Oct. 2009		

Annex 3.5 Bear Wor District Action Plan

No	Problem	Location		Action Required	Lead Actor	Partner	Time Frame		Est. Cost USD	Comment
		Clan	Town				Start	End		
1	Road	Kpaqua Gor, Bour, Wor, Weh	Kpaqua to ITI, Cola Tree to Klagba, Cispan Fall to Forteah	Construction	Citizens	GoL & Partners	April. 2008	OCT. 2009		
2	Clinic	Kpaqua Gor, Bour, Wor, Weh	Kpaqua Gor, Bour, Wor, Weh	Primary/ secondary schools per clan(new)	Citizens	GoL & Partners	April. 2008	Oct. 2009		
3	School	Kpaqua Gor, Bour, Wor, Weh	Kpaqua Gor, Bour, Wor, Weh	20 bed room clinic for the four clans	Citizens	GoL & Partners	April. 2008	Oct. 2009		

Annex 3.6 Central River Cess District Action Plan

No	Problem	Location		Action Required	Lead Actor	Partner	Time Frame		Est. Cost USD	Comment
		Clan	Town				Start	End		
1	Road	Doewein, Ziadu, Siahn, Dorbor, Teekpeh	Neezuin to Garpue, Yarpah to Borgezay, One House to Neezuin	Rehabilitation	Citizens	GoL & Partners	Apr. 2008	OCT. 2009		
2	School	Doewein, Ziadu, Siahn, Dorbor, Teekpeh	Zammie, Teekpeh, Neezuin, Garpue, Gborwuzohn	Primary/secondary schools per clan (new)	Citizens	GoL & Partners	Apr. 2008	Oct. 2009		
3	Health	Doewein, Ziadu, Siahn, Dorbor, Teekpeh	Zammie, Teekpeh, Neezuin, Garpue, Gborwuzohn	20 bed clinic for the four clans	Citizens	GoL & Partners	Apr. 2008	Oct. 2009		

Annex 3.7 Dodain District Action Plan

No	Problem	Location		Action Required	Lead Actor	Partner	Time Frame		Est. Cost USD	Comment
		Clan	Town				Start	End		
1	Road	Bah, Zarquch Central. Morweh, Duahn	Karngbo to Dehgar, Gbarseleh- Karngbo, Boe-Gbarseleh, Durzohn-Zeegar	Rehabilitate existing roads	GoL / citizens	DDC, UNDP, UNSAID, Logging Companies, etc	Dec. 2007	Apr. 2008		
2	Schools	Bah, Zarquch Central. Morweh Duahn	Karngbo, Gozohn Nagbo, Zeegar, Sayon, Doe Borgeezay	Build 4 Primary Schools, 2 Jr. High School, 1 High School	GoL / citizens	DDC, UNDP, USAID, logging, companies, NGOs	Dec. 2007	Apr. 2008		
3	Clinics	Bah, Zarquch Central. Morweh Duahn	Dodain, Dehgar, Zeegar, Kporkon	4 clinics (6 beds) in the clan and a 16-bed health center at Borgeezay	GoL / citizens	DDC, UNDP, USAID, logging companies, NGOs	Dec. 2007	Apr. 2008		

Annex 3.8 Jo-River District Action Plan

No	Challenge	LOCATION		Lead	Action required	Collaborating Partners	Time frame		Est. Cost USD	Comment
		Clan	Town				Start	End		
1	Road	Sawpue, Jowein, Gonnor, Bour, Tarr	Joquah to Mandeh, Boe to Keryah, Barchue to Bodo Whea, Bodo Whea to Boboe, Bahn to Garpue Town	GoL/ Citizens	Rehabilitate existing roads	DDC, UNDP, USAID, logging companies, NGOs	Dec. 2007	Apr. 2008		
2	Schools	Sawpue, Jowein, Gonnor Tarr, Bour Tarr	Zoryca, Buduin, Bodo Whea, Bahn, Buduehn	GoL / Citizens	Build 4 Primary Schools, 2 Jr. High Schools, 1 High School,	DDC, UNDP, USAID, logging companies, NGOs	Dec. 2007	Apr. 2008		
3	Clinics	Sawpue, Jowein, Gonnor Tarr, Bour Tarr	Zoryca, Buduin, Bodo Whea, Bahn, Buduehn	GoL/ Citizen	4 clinics (6 beds) in the clan and a 16-bed health center at Borgezay	DDC, UNDP, USAID, logging companies, NGOs	Dec. 2007	Apr. 2008		

Annex 3.9 City Cestos City Action Plan

No	Problem	Location		Action Required	Lead Actor	Partner	Time Frame		Est. Cost USD	Comment
		Township	City				Start	End		
1	Road	Cestos	Cestos Streets	Rehabilitation	Citizens	GoL & Partners	April. 2008	OCT. 2009		
2	School	Cestos	Cestos	1 Junior College & 4 Vocational Schools	Citizens	GoL & Partners	April. 2008	Oct. 2009		
3	Housing	Cestos	Cestos	Guest house, low income housing units	Citizens	GoL & Partners	April. 2008	Oct. 2009		

ANNEX 4 - PRIORITY INTERVENTIONS

Three Projects per District

1 – Roads

PRIORITY	DISTRICT	ROUTE / LOCATION	COMMENT
ROAD	Jo – River & Dodain	#3 Compound - Gleozohn – Borgezay – Karngbo – Tappita	Road connects Grand Bassa and Nimba Counties
	Jo - River	Barchue – Bodowhea - Garpue	Connects Jo - River to central River Cess
	Jo - River	Zoryca – Mandeh Twn	Feeder road connecting the Sawpue and central Morweh clans
	Dodain	Gborgezay – Kplor Highway	Connects Morweh ,Jo - River and Central River Cess
	Dodain	Charlie Town - #3C	Connects River Cess and Grand Bassa
	Central River Cess and Nyunwein	Blatoc – Garpue – Yarpah	Connects River Cess and Timbo District
	Central River Cess	One house - Neezuin	Connects two clans
	Central River Cess	Logan town – Gedeh Town	Connects two clans
	Central River Cess	Garpue Town - Yolo at Grand Gedeh border through Zammie Town	Connects four Clans
	Zarflahn	Mandeh town - Neezuin	Connects Zarflahn and Central River Cess
	Fehn River	Charlie town – Pour Town	Connects two clans
	Fehn River	Little Liberia – Timbo Beach	Access to District Headquarters
	Zarflahn	Construct road from OBS junction – Cispan - Sahnkuen River through Rock Cess & Construct 200 meter bridge over the Cestos River.	Connects River Cess and Sinoe Counties
	Beawor	ITI – Kpaquch	Connects two districts

2 – Education

PRIORITY	DISTRICT	LOCATION	COMMENT
EDUCATION	Dodain	Construct Jr. High School in Karngbo Town	Poor structure exists
		Construct Jr. High School in Suaakon Town	Poor structure exists
		Construct Multilateral School in Borgezay City	Poor structure exists
	Jo - River	Construct High School in Bodowhea Town	Poor structure exists
		Construct Jr. High School in Gleozohn	Poor structure exists
		Construct Jr. High School in Wroloyah Town	Poor structure exists
	Nyunwein	Construct Jr. High School in Bannie Town	Poor structure exists
		Construct High School in Gblorsoo Town	Poor structure exists
		Construct Vocational School in Yarpah Town	Poor structure exists
	Central River Cess	Construct Jr. High School in Neezuin	Poor structure exists
		Construct Jr. High School in Teekpeh Town	Poor structure exists
		Construct High School at Garpue Town	Poor structure exists
	Fehn River	Construct primary School in Pour Town	Poor structure exists

3 – Health

PRORITY	NAME OF CLINIC	DISTRICT	CLAN
Health	Borgeezay	Dodain	Central, Morweh
	Karngbo Town	Dodain	Bah
	Gozohn	Dodain	Zarquch
	Charlie	Fehn River	Banama
	Garyeazohn	Fehn River	Garyeazohn
	Timbo	Fehn River	Timbo
	Garwroh	Zarflahn	Kebeh
	Yolo	Central River Cess	Teekpoch
	Glecozohn	Jo - River	Gbuizohn
	Bahn	Jo - River	Gbuizohn
	Zorycah	Jo - River	Sawpue
	Klagbe	Sangbalor	
	Gbediah	Nyuchwein	
	Forteah	Beawor	
	Krakpoh	Beawor	
	Zeebozohn	Beawor	
	Kpaquch	Beawor	
	Gblosco	Nyuchwein	
	Gedeh, Midway City, Garpue	Nyuchwein, Bearwor, Central River Cess	Kayah, Wor, Dorbor

