

Enhanced Integrated Framework (EIF)

Liberia is heavily endowed with natural resources and a favorable climate for agricultural activities (possessing approximately 40% of the West Africa's reserved forest). Due to varying reasons, not uncommon to Least Developed Countries (LDC) including Civil war, low gross national income, weak human assets and economic vulnerability, Liberia has not been able to fully harness its comparative advantages.

Over the last 8 years, however, the Government has instituted a number of socio-economic measures, which current statistical data from the Ministry of Commerce and industrial, the National Central Bank, ASYCUDA, and our developing partner among others, clearly demonstrates a tremendous improvement in the overall economic and trade performances.

The Government of Liberia has identified and is using Trade as a core instrument gear at facilitating and accelerating economic revitalization and development, and becoming a middle income country by 2030. Focusing on this clear direction, in June 2007, the government submitted an application to the World Trade Organization (WTO) informing it of its interest in becoming a member of that body. The application was received and endorsed, leading to the formation of a working party in December 2007.

Upon the request of the Government of Liberia in 2008, a trade study "Diagnostic Trade Integrated Study" was conducted with funding from the Enhanced Integrated Framework (EIF) as part of its support for trade related assistance to Least Developed Countries of which Liberia is included.

The Diagnostic Trade Integrated Study (DTIS), aimed at identifying hindrances and providing recommendations for possible solution to improving and developing trade and trade related activities in Least Developed Countries.

The EIF- (National Implementing Unit), recently changed to - the Single Project Implementation Unit (SPIU) to reflect one coordinated body of all donor funded projects at the Ministry of Commerce and industrial - functions under the guidance of the National Steering Committee (NSC). The NSC is made up of senior level from all sectors of the local economy, including, the Ministries of Commerce – as chair, Finance, Agriculture, Foreign Affairs, State and Presidential Affairs and Information, Culture and Tourism, the National Investment Commission, the Central Bank of Liberia, the Liberia Forestry Authority, the Liberia Revenue Authority, the Liberia Chamber of Commerce and the world Bank. The SPIU is based at and serves as an advisory and technical trade and trade development support unit within the Ministry of Commerce and Industry.

Below is a matrix of donor funded projects under the SPIU.

SINGLE PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION UNIT (SPIU)

<i>PROGRAM</i>	<i>PROJECT/ACTIVITY</i>	<i>DESCRIPTION</i>
Enhanced Integrated Framework (EIF)		
	The Liberia– DIAGNOSTIC TRADE INTEGRATION STUDY UPDATE (DTIS)	An assessment report on progress on the implementation of policies and programs under the 2008 DTIS. The report provides a roadmap for addressing the challenges facing Liberia with respect to trade
	The Market Place	A one-stop showcase and salesshop for locally produced commodities by Liberian entrepreneurs.
	MOCI Operational Plan	A detailed plan clearly setting out actions the departments of the Ministry will take to support the strategic objectives and plans of the Senior Management Team.
	Trade Data harmonization project	Synchronization the collection and publication of all trade data from source agencies.
Program of Assistance to Trade Support Institutions in Liberia (PATSIIL)	Industrial Sector Analysis	Conduct detailed industrial sector analysis to identify key competitive sectors for targeted action and support
	Monitoring of implementation of Industrial Support program	Support and monitor implementation of the Industrial Sector Support Program and conduct a public awareness campaign to increase awareness of consumer rights
	Development of national labor productivity program relating to industrial skill development	Develop and implement National Labor Productivity program linking training, staff development and remuneration with productivity and industrial skills requirement
	Private Sector Hosting of a website to raise awareness on consumers rights and protection and good manufacturing practice	implementation of a robust consumer education, good manufacturing practice, and awareness program; e-commerce, and website to enable consumers have market information; hiring of IT Consultant to work with MOCI IT Unit
	Development of Guidelines for entry and exit of industrial investment in Liberia	Develop clear policy guidelines for strategic government intervention in industry, including guidelines on entry/exit and procedures for the development of technical regulations by regulatory bodies streamlined and enforced by legislation
	Capacity building of rural women for value addition	Enhance capacity of Liberian women entrepreneur in Labeling, Packaging and Food Security
	Promoting cassava and fish value addition	Continuation of support to business models to improve the cassava and fish value chain to promote the commercialization of cassava and fish
	Program of Assistance to Trade Support	To strengthen the capacity of trade support institutions (MOCI,

	Institutions in Liberia	National Port Authority and Liberia Chamber of Commerce) in Liberia
Japanese Commodity AID (JCI)	Food Aid - Rice	Monetization of the KR rice donation from the Japanese Government; Sale /distribution of the KR rice donation
	Petroleum product ("Non-Project Grant Aid	Monetization of the non-project donation from the Japanese Government; Sale /distribution of the KR rice donation
	The Counterpart Valued Fund (CVF)	Coordination and verification of the implementation of the CVF and assess socio-economic impact on the Liberian economy
Cassava Project	Industrial Development Agro-based cassava processing.	Supporting the development of developing Agro-based cassava processing plants to assist local farmers add value to cassava process in Liberia