# Ministry of Local Government

## Second Quarter Report, 2026

## (April-June)



*President Boakai shakes hand with AARDO's SG Dr. Nardeosingh, UNRC looks on at the opening of Int's Roundtable*

## Servicing Liberia through Decentralization

# Forward



The Second Quarter of 2026 represents another important milestone in the Ministry of Local Government's ongoing efforts to strengthen decentralization, improve local governance, and advance Liberia's national development priorities. Guided by our declaration of 2026 as the "**Year of Action**: Delivering on the Local Government Agenda and the ARREST Agenda for Inclusive Development (AAID)," the Ministry has remained focused on transforming local governance institutions into effective vehicles for citizen participation, accountability, and sustainable development.

Throughout this quarter, the Ministry worked closely with county administrations, local authorities, traditional leaders, development partners, civil society organizations, and communities to promote responsive governance and improve service delivery.

The Ministry also strengthened international partnerships and knowledge-sharing through the successful hosting of the International Policy Roundtable on Local Governance and Rural Development, which elevated Liberia's role in regional and international discussions on local governance and rural transformation. The outcomes of this engagement have created new opportunities for technical cooperation, capacity building, and institutional strengthening.

While considerable progress was made, we recognize that meaningful decentralization requires sustained investment, stronger institutional capacities, reliable financing mechanisms, improved infrastructure, and enhanced coordination among stakeholders. The challenges documented in this report underscore the need for continued commitment from Government, development partners, and local actors to strengthen local governance systems and improve the lives of citizens across Liberia.

On behalf of the Ministry of Local Government, I extend sincere appreciation to His Excellency President Joseph Nyuma Boakai, Sr., our development partners, county administrations, traditional leaders, civil society organizations, and all Ministry staff whose dedication and hard work contributed to the achievements reported herein.

## Acknowledgement

The Ministry of Local Government extends its sincere appreciation to all individuals and institutions whose dedication, collaboration, and commitment contributed to the successful implementation of the Ministry's programs and activities during the Second Quarter of 2026 (April–June).

We are particularly grateful to the Ministry's leadership and departmental heads for providing strategic guidance, policy direction, and oversight that ensured alignment of our interventions with national development priorities and the Government of Liberia's decentralization agenda. We also commend our staff across all departments, units, and local government structures for their professionalism, resilience, and unwavering commitment to public service delivery.

The Ministry acknowledges the invaluable support of County Authorities, local governance institutions, and stakeholders whose partnership continues to strengthen responsive, transparent, and participatory governance at the local level. Their engagement remains essential to advancing decentralization and promoting sustainable development throughout the country.

The Ministry further extends its profound gratitude to its development partners for their unwavering commitment to strengthening local governance and supporting Liberia's decentralization efforts. Through the provision of technical assistance, capacity-building initiatives, financial resources, policy guidance, and strategic collaboration, our partners have made significant contributions to the successful implementation of key programs and interventions during the reporting period.

Special recognition is extended to Hon. Selena Polson Mappy, Deputy Minister for Research, Policy and Planning**,** and Hon. D. Emmanuel Wheinyue, Assistant Minister for Research, Policy and Planning**,** for their leadership and supervision throughout the preparation of this Second Quarter Report. Their guidance ensured the quality, accuracy, and comprehensiveness of the reporting process.

Finally, the Ministry recognizes the collective efforts of all stakeholders whose contributions continue to support the implementation of the Local Government Act of 2018 and the broader national vision of building accountable, inclusive, and sustainable local governance systems across Liberia.

## Acronyms

| | |
|---|---|
| **MLG** | **Ministry of Local Government** |
| **PMCS** | Performance Management and Compliance System |
| **CSC** | County Service Center(s) |
| **CDF** | County Development Fund |
| **LGA** | Local Government Act |
| **MEAL** | Monitoring, Evaluation, Accountability and Learning |
| **HR** | Human Resources |
| **GREAT** | Governance Reform and Accountability Transformation (Project) |
| **LDSP** | Liberia Decentralization Support Program |
| **DSU** | Decentralization Support Unit |
| **AAID** | ARREST Agenda for Inclusive Development |
| **WCC** | War and Economic Crimes Court |
| **CDA** | County Development Agenda |
| **GC** | Governance Commission |
| **NCCRO** | National Concession Conflict Resolution Office |
| **LPBO** | Liberia Peace Building Office |
| **GSIU** | Gender and Social Inclusion Unit |
| **UNDP** | United Nations Development Program |
| **ONPA** | Office of the National Peace Ambassador |
| **SDF** | Social Development Funds |
| **EPA** | Environmental Protection Agency |
| **UNICEF** | United Nations Children's Fund |
| **MOU** | Memorandum of Understanding |
| **MAC** | Ministries, Agencies and Commissions |
| **NDIS** | National Decentralization Implementation Secretariat |
| **PWD** | Persons Living With Disabilities |

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## Executive Summary

The Ministry of Local Government (MLG) continued to advance Liberia's decentralization agenda during the Second Quarter of 2026 through strategic reforms, institutional strengthening, and county-level development interventions in support of the Local Government Act of 2018, the Revenue Sharing Law of 2022, and the ARREST Agenda for Inclusive Development (AAID). The Ministry focused on enhancing local governance, improving service delivery, strengthening citizen participation, and promoting accountable and inclusive development across the fifteen counties.

During the reporting period, the Ministry strengthened collaboration with development partners, including UNICEF, UNDP, UNCDF, UN Women, CRS, the World Bank, and AARDO, resulting in expanded support for capacity building, devolution reforms, local governance strengthening, and rural development initiatives. Notably, Liberia hosted the International Policy Roundtable on Local Governance and Rural Development, culminating in the adoption of the Monrovia Declaration and securing international commitments for technical assistance and institutional development.

Key achievements included the implementation of Phase I of the "Taking Government to the People" Initiative, nationwide reaffirmation assessments of cities, townships, and boroughs, capacity-building programs for County Service Center personnel, gender-responsive planning initiatives, strengthening of traditional governance structures, and enhanced concession conflict resolution interventions. These efforts contributed to strengthening governance systems, increasing citizen engagement, and improving institutional effectiveness at the local level.

At the county level, significant progress was recorded in infrastructure development, education, healthcare, energy access, public administration, water and sanitation, and local economic development. Across the counties that submitted reports, **more than 30 development projects were completed**, while numerous others were nearing completion or remained under active implementation. Major achievements included the completion of schools, clinics, government administrative facilities, roads, markets, commissioner compounds, energy infrastructure, youth facilities, and public service projects that directly support the County Development Agenda and improve citizens' access to essential services.

Despite these accomplishments, implementation was affected by challenges including delayed disbursement of County Development Funds (CDF) and Social Development Funds (SDF), inadequate operational resources, staffing shortages, poor road connectivity, limited logistics and ICT infrastructure, and persistent boundary and land disputes in some counties.

Nevertheless, the achievements recorded during the quarter demonstrate the Ministry's continued commitment to advancing decentralization, strengthening local governance institutions, promoting social inclusion, and supporting sustainable county development. Going forward, increased investment in local governance systems, timely funding disbursements, stronger institutional coordination, and sustained stakeholder engagement will be critical to consolidating these gains and accelerating implementation of Liberia's decentralization and development agenda

International Policy Roundtable on Local Governance and Rural Development
Margibi County, Liberia | 8–12 June 2026

**Background**



The Government of Liberia, through the Ministry of Local Government and in partnership with the African-Asian Rural Development Organization (AARDO), convened the International Policy Roundtable on Local Governance and Rural Development from 8 to 12 June 2026 at the Farmington Hotel in Margibi County. Held under the theme, *"Advancing Local Governance and Rural Development for an Inclusive and Prosperous Future,"* the Roundtable served as a platform for policy dialogue, knowledge exchange, and international cooperation on decentralization and rural transformation. More than 150 participants, including government officials, policymakers, development partners, researchers, and local governance practitioners from Africa, Asia, Europe, and North America attended the event.

**Objectives**

The Roundtable sought to promote a deeper understanding of the role of local governance in implementing Liberia's ARREST Agenda for Inclusive Development, facilitate the exchange of international experiences and best practices, identify practical approaches to rural transformation, strengthen institutional capacities at the local level, and develop actionable policy recommendations to advance sustainable rural development.

**Key Deliberations**



Deliberations focused on critical areas of local governance and rural development, including decentralization, agriculture-led growth, institutional capacity development, financing mechanisms, digital governance, climate resilience, and policy integration. Participants reviewed experiences from several countries and emphasized the importance of strengthening fiscal decentralization, clarifying institutional mandates, improving local revenue generation, and enhancing the technical capacities of local government institutions.

Discussions highlighted agriculture as a key driver of rural transformation, underscoring the need to strengthen agricultural value chains, support cooperative development, improve market access, and increase the participation of women and youth in local economic activities. Participants also emphasized the growing

importance of digital technologies in improving governance and public service delivery through expanded connectivity and e-governance systems.

Climate resilience emerged as another major theme, with delegates advocating for climate-smart agriculture, sustainable natural resource management, resilient infrastructure, and strengthened disaster preparedness measures to mitigate the impacts of climate change on vulnerable communities. A field visit to Margibi and Bong Counties provided participants with first-hand exposure to local governance and development initiatives, reinforcing the linkage between policy reforms and implementation at the community level.

**Outcomes and Recommendations**

A key outcome of the Roundtable was the adoption of the **Monrovia Declaration on Local Governance and Rural Development**, which provides a framework for strengthening decentralization and accelerating rural transformation across participating countries. The Declaration calls for stronger administrative, political, and fiscal decentralization; enhanced transparency and accountability; increased citizen participation; expanded digital governance and rural connectivity; greater investment in climate-smart agriculture and resilient infrastructure; and stronger support for women and youth empowerment. It also advocates for continuous professional development of local government officials and strengthened collaboration among governments, development partners, academia, civil society, and the private sector.

**AARDO's Commitments to Liberia.**

The Roundtable secured several commitments from AARDO to support Liberia's decentralization and rural development efforts. These include specialized training opportunities for government officials, technical assistance, study visits, technology transfer initiatives, and support for pilot rural development projects aimed at strengthening local governance institutions and service delivery.

**Pictoral**



*Field trip to Kpartawee Fall in Bong Co.*











# SECOND QUARTER PERFORMANCE REPORT OF THE COUNTY SERVICE CENTERS (CSCs)

## Executive Summary

The County Service Centers (CSCs) continued to advance the Government of Liberia's decentralization agenda during the second quarter of 2026 by providing citizens with equitable access to public services and facilitating revenue generation at the county level. During the reporting period, fourteen operational CSCs delivered services across the country, while Montserrado County Service Center remained non-operational. The Centers collectively served **13,840 citizens,** comprising **7,499 males** and **6,341 females,** processed **418 service transactions**, facilitated services for **109 couples,** and generated total revenues of **L$12,378,354.00 and US$1,740,339.88.**

2. CSC Performance Statistics Matrix

| County | Male | Female | Total Clients | Services | Couples | Revenue (L$) | Revenue (US$) |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Bong | 348 | 298 | 646 | 38 | 21 | 1,014,764 | 10,015 |
| Gbarpolu | 475 | 377 | 852 | 24 | 0 | 1,115,786 | 2,306 |
| Grand Cape Mount | 467 | 456 | 923 | 20 | 0 | 723,445 | 1,435 |
| Nimba | 1,123 | 718 | 1,841 | 58 | 23 | 2,923,680 | 1,685,831 |
| Bomi | 575 | 557 | 1,132 | 25 | 3 | 1,396,835 | 1,285 |
| Margibi | 727 | 555 | 1,282 | 47 | 10 | 607,458 | 12,905 |
| River Gee | 0 | 19 | 19 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Grand Bassa | 592 | 644 | 1,236 | 48 | 16 | 913,200 | 13,976 |
| Lofa | 1,045 | 911 | 1,956 | 32 | 8 | 568,260 | 5,126 |
| Maryland | 302 | 259 | 561 | 32 | 15 | 1,120,330 | 3,217 |
| Rivercess | 357 | 328 | 685 | 22 | 0 | 268,326 | 205 |
| Sinoe | 182 | 97 | 279 | 19 | 1 | 558,725 | 2,060 |
| Grand Gedeh | 1,163 | 1,004 | 2,167 | 32 | 9 | 937,640 | 1,274 |
| Grand Kru | 143 | 118 | 261 | 19 | 3 | 229,905 | 705 |
| Montserrado | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| **TOTAL** | **7,499** | **6,341** | **13,840** | **418** | **109** | **12,378,354** | **1,740,340** |

## 3. Performance Analysis

### a. Service Delivery

A total of 418 services were delivered throughout the quarter. Nimba County recorded the highest number of services delivered (58), followed by Grand Bassa (48) and Margibi (47). These figures indicate strong operational activity and citizen engagement in these counties.

Revenue Performance

The CSC network generated L$12.38 million and US$1.74 million during the quarter. Nimba County remained the highest revenue-generating center, contributing approximately 24 percent of

total Liberian Dollar revenue and the overwhelming majority of US Dollar collections. Bomi, Maryland, and Gbarpolu also demonstrated strong revenue performance.

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**4. CSC Performance Charts**

Figure 1: Top Five Counties by Liberian Dollar Revenue

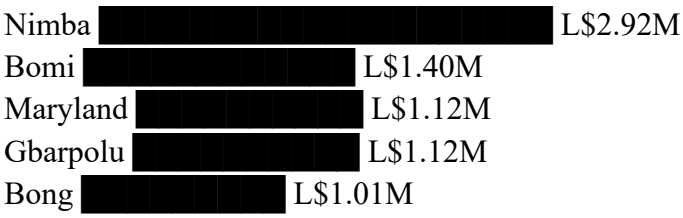



**Figure 2: Number of Services Delivered**

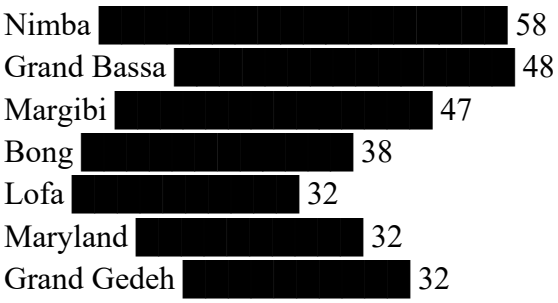



**Figure 3: Client Distribution by Gender**




**Figure 4: Revenue Share by Leading Counties**

Nimba 24%
Bomi 11%
Maryland 9%
Gbarpolu 9%
Bong 8%
Others 39%

**6. Key Operational Challenges**

A review of county reports reveals several recurring challenges affecting CSC performance nationwide:

Institutional Challenges

Limited staffing at service windows.

Weak attendance and reporting compliance by some MAC representatives.

Insufficient training and capacity-building opportunities.

**Infrastructure and ICT Constraints**

Poor internet connectivity.

Inadequate office space and furniture.

Insufficient ICT equipment and maintenance support.

Lack of vehicles and mobility support.

Service Delivery Constraints

Delayed decentralization of key services.

Unavailability of traditional marriage, western marriage, business registration, and adult birth certificate services in several counties.

Centralized approval processes creating delays.

Financial Constraints

Delayed release of government allotments.

Limited operational resources for awareness and outreach programs.

Revenue activities conducted outside CSC systems by some institutions.

**7. Recommendations**

The Ministry should consider the following actions:

Ensure timely disbursement of annual allotments to County Service Centers.

Strengthen staffing and operational support for all MAC windows.

Accelerate service decentralization and delegation of approval authority.

Improve ICT infrastructure and internet connectivity nationwide.

Provide vehicles and logistics support for awareness and monitoring activities.

Institutionalize periodic staff training and customer service development.

Strengthen accountability and reporting requirements for MAC representatives.

Expand citizen awareness campaigns regarding CSC services.

Complete infrastructure rehabilitation and equipment replacement across CSCs.

# 3.0 Ministry of Local Government- Departmental Reports

## 3.1 Department of Local Government

### 3.1.1 Taking Government to the People Initiative

During the second quarter, the Department of Local Government and Decentralization concentrated on institutional strengthening and the implementation of key decentralization reforms in line with the Local Government Act of 2018, the Revenue Sharing Law of 2022, and the Ministry of Local Government Act of 2022. Efforts focused on advancing the Government of Liberia's decentralization agenda by promoting local governance, strengthening citizen engagement, and improving service delivery at the subnational level.



The Ministry successfully implemented Phase I of the "Taking Government to the People" Initiative across the five southeastern counties of Grand Kru, Maryland, River Gee, Grand Gedeh, and Sinoe. Led by Deputy Minister Hon. Edward K. Mulbah, the mission engaged local authorities, traditional leaders, women and youth groups, civil society actors, and county officials to foster dialogue, assess governance challenges, and strengthen accountability between central government institutions and local communities.

The engagements identified several governance and development challenges, including illegal mining activities, foreign national encroachment, delays in the payment of chiefs' benefits, concerns surrounding district restructuring and city reaffirmation processes, staffing shortages at County Service Centers, and critical infrastructure deficits. In response, the Ministry proposed targeted interventions, including human resource audits, staff transition strategies, teacher retention measures, and strengthened inter-agency collaboration to address illegal mining and improve local service delivery.

To enhance institutional effectiveness at the local level, the Ministry, through the Liberia Decentralization Support Program (LDSP) and with support from UNDP, provided essential office equipment to County Development Planning Units in the five counties, thereby strengthening local planning, data management, and evidence-based decision-making.

### 3.1.2 Local Governance Capacity-Building Workshop

The Department facilitated a Local Governance Capacity-Building Workshop in Montserrado County from 15 to 17 April 2026 under the theme "Supporting Responsive Local Governance." The workshop brought together county officials and national institutions to strengthen knowledge of decentralization processes, improve coordination, and enhance service delivery at the local level.

### 3.1.3 Challenges

Inadequate Financing for Decentralization: Persistent funding constraints and delays in statutory transfers, including the County Development Fund (CDF) and County Social Development Fund (CSDF), continue to impede the implementation of local development initiatives.
Limited Human Resource Capacity: Several counties continue to face shortages of skilled personnel, affecting project implementation, administrative efficiency, and the quality-of-service delivery.
Coordination and Institutional Overlaps: Overlapping mandates and competing priorities among government institutions and stakeholders continue to affect effective coordination and the implementation of decentralization reforms.

### 3.1.4 Outlook for Q3

During the next quarter, the Department will prioritize the implementation of Phase II of the "Taking Government to the People" Initiative, convene a national policy dialogue on delegation and devolution, and formally launch the National Inter-Ministerial Committee on Decentralization. Additional efforts will focus on strengthening citizen participation, enhancing intergovernmental coordination, and expanding capacity-building support for local government institutions to improve governance and service delivery outcomes.

### 3.1.5 Recommendations



Ensure the timely disbursement of statutory transfers to local governments while exploring sustainable local revenue generation mechanisms.

Strengthen capacity development programs for local government officials to improve administrative performance and service delivery.

Clarify institutional mandates and improve coordination mechanisms among national and local government actors.

### 3.1.6 Conclusion

The Department of Local Government and Decentralization recorded significant progress during the reporting period through the implementation of the "Taking Government to the People" Initiative, participation in regional peace and security engagements, capacity-building interventions, and policy dialogue platforms. These efforts have contributed to advancing Liberia's decentralization agenda and strengthening local governance systems. However, sustained progress will require increased financing, stronger institutional capacity, and enhanced coordination among stakeholders to ensure effective, inclusive, and accountable local governance.

### 3.1.7 MRU Technical Committee Meeting on Peace, Security, and Defense

From 10 to 11 July 2026, Liberia participated in the Mano River Union (MRU) Technical Committee Sub-Regional Meeting on Peace, Security, and Defense in Freetown, Sierra Leone. The Liberian delegation, led by Deputy Minister Edward K. Mulbah, joined representatives from Côte d'Ivoire, Guinea, and Sierra Leone to discuss emerging regional threats, including transnational crime, terrorism, irregular migration, illegal mining, and border governance challenges.

Liberia emphasized the critical role of local governments, border communities, traditional authorities, women, and youth in promoting peace, security, and effective border management. A key outcome of the meeting was the adoption of a revised Joint Action Plan, alongside recommendations to establish a regional intelligence-sharing mechanism, strengthen joint border security structures, improve border infrastructure, and enhance community participation in border governance.

## 3.2 Department of Research, Policy and Planning

### 3.2.1 Mediation Mission on the Sinoe-Rivercess Boundary Dispute

During the second quarter of 2026, the Department of Research, Policy and Planning provided technical leadership in a high-level mediation mission concerning a complaint submitted by the Superintendent of Sinoe County regarding the alleged removal of a town chief in Gbargboe Village and the broader boundary dispute between Sinoe and Rivercess Counties. Following instructions from the Acting Minister of Local Government, a five-member delegation was deployed to assess the situation and facilitate dialogue aimed at preventing escalation of tensions between the two counties. The mission was led by Hon. D. Emmanuel Wheinyue, Assistant Minister for Research, Policy and Planning and included the Deputy Peace Ambassador and team, the Liberia Peacebuilding Office, and the Culture and Tradition Unit.





The mediation team conducted a field assessment and convened a stakeholder dialogue in Gbargboe Village on June 26, 2026, bringing together 56 delegates from both counties, including local government officials, traditional leaders, elders, and community representatives. The engagement provided a platform for all parties to present their perspectives and clarify issues underlying the dispute. The mediation process was chaired by the Assistant Minister for Research, Policy and Planning and focused on promoting constructive dialogue, fact-finding, and consensus-building.

The assessment established that the incident cited in the complaint was linked to a longstanding boundary dispute between Sinoe and Rivercess Counties dating back to 2019. Findings revealed that the issue did not involve the removal of a General Town Chief as alleged, but rather resistance by local residents to the introduction of a Clan Chief from Sinoe County in 2023. The delegation further determined that no chief had been removed and that the matter stemmed from competing administrative claims associated with the unresolved county boundary dispute. The investigation also confirmed that Rivercess County has historically exercised administrative authority in Gbargboe Village while the broader territorial status of the area remains subject to formal government determination.

The mediation resulted in several important outcomes. Both counties agreed to maintain the status quo pending a final determination of the boundary dispute. The parties further endorsed the need for a technical boundary verification process to be undertaken by the Ministry of Local Government and relevant government institutions to establish the official boundary points between the two counties. The engagement successfully de-escalated tensions, strengthened inter-county

dialogue, and reinforced the Ministry's role in promoting peaceful conflict resolution and social cohesion at the local level.

The intervention demonstrates the Department's continued commitment to evidence-based policy support, conflict prevention, and mediation of governance-related disputes. Lessons and findings from the mission will contribute to ongoing policy discussions and future interventions relating to local governance, boundary management, and peacebuilding across Liberia.

**Recommendation:** The Ministry should prioritize the implementation of a technical boundary verification exercise in collaboration with relevant government institutions to establish the official boundary between Sinoe and Rivercess Counties and prevent future administrative conflicts.

**Next Steps:** Initiate the technical boundary demarcation process, engage stakeholders from both counties throughout the exercise, and monitor compliance with the agreed status quo until a final determination is reached

### 3.3.1 World Bank-Financed GREAT Project Enhanced the Capacity of County Service Center Staff

### 3.3.2 Background

From 8 to 17 June 2026, the Governance Reform and Accountability Transformation (GREAT) Project, implemented by the Ministry of Finance and Development Planning with World Bank support, conducted a ten-day Environmental and Social Standards (ESS) and E-Waste Management Training in Sinoe, Grand Kru, Maryland, River Gee, and Grand Gedeh Counties. The activity was undertaken in partnership with the Ministry of Local Government and targeted County Service Center (CSC) personnel and other key stakeholders.

### 3.3.3 Objective

The training aimed to strengthen the capacity of CSC staff and county stakeholders to effectively implement environmental and social safeguards and promote responsible e-waste management under the GREAT Project.

### 3.3.4 Key Activities

Participants were trained on the World Bank Environmental and Social Framework (ESF), Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF), Labour Management Procedures (LMP), Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP), Grievance Redress Mechanisms (GRM), SEA/SH and GBV prevention, occupational health and safety, and electronic waste management. The sessions focused on enhancing participants' ability to manage environmental and social risks associated with digital service delivery.

### 3.3.5 Participation

The training benefited 108 participants, including CSC Coordinators and staff, civil society organizations, women's and youth groups, organizations of persons with disabilities, community-based organizations, and local government representatives.

### 3.3.6 Results

The training improved participants' understanding of safeguard requirements, stakeholder engagement, grievance management, and e-waste handling. It also strengthened county-level capacity to support environmentally and socially responsible implementation of the GREAT Project.

### 3.3.7 Lessons Learned

Interactive training methods enhanced participation and knowledge retention, while flexible logistical arrangements contributed to greater participant engagement and satisfaction.

### 3.3.8.Recommendations

Regular refresher training should be conducted for CSC staff and stakeholders. Efforts should also focus on strengthening safeguard monitoring, grievance redress systems, public awareness activities, and county-level e-waste management while ensuring the inclusion of women, youth, and persons with disabilities.

**Pictoral**





### Development of Gender Action Plan Guidelines Workshop funded by UN Women

The Ministry of Local Government (MLG), with support from the United Nations Peacebuilding Fund (UNPBF) through UN Women, conducted a two-day workshop in Kakata, Margibi County, May 1-2, 2026, to develop Gender Action Plan Guidelines for mainstreaming gender in county development planning, implementation, and monitoring processes. The workshop brought together County Development Officers and Gender and Social Inclusion Officers from ten counties, alongside representatives of the Ministry of Gender, Children and Social Protection.

### Objectives

Develop practical guidelines for integrating gender into county development processes.
Strengthen the capacity of County Development Planning Units and Gender Officers. Increase the participation of women, youth, and marginalized groups in local governance.

### Key Discussions and Outcomes

During the opening session, the Margibi County Superintendent reaffirmed the county's commitment to incorporating gender considerations into planning and development initiatives and pledged support to the Gender and Social Inclusion Office.
The workshop emphasized that gender-responsive planning is essential for equitable service delivery, inclusive governance, improved development outcomes, and compliance with national policies. Participants were introduced to key planning tools, including gender analysis, sex-

disaggregated data collection, inclusive consultations, gender-responsive budgeting, and monitoring systems using gender-sensitive indicators.

Sessions further clarified the role of the MLG Gender and Social Inclusion Unit in advancing decentralization, strengthening inclusive governance, institutionalizing gender-responsive planning frameworks, and improving data systems for monitoring inclusion. Participants also examined practical steps for mainstreaming gender in county development plans through evidence-based planning and stakeholder engagement.

### Participation

The workshop was attended by 20 participants from the Ministry of Local Government, the Ministry of Gender, Children and Social Protection, and County Development Planning Units representing Rivercess, Grand Bassa, Grand Cape Mount, Margibi, Montserrado, Gbarpolu, Bomi, Lofa, Nimba, and Bong Counties. Female participants constituted the majority, reflecting the workshop's focus on strengthening women's participation in local governance.





## 3.3 Department of Urban Affairs

### 3.3.1 Reaffirmation of Cities in line with the Local Government Act of 2018.





During the second quarter of 2026, the Ministry of Local Government, through the Department of Urban Affairs, conducted a nationwide assessment of cities in all fifteen counties to support the reaffirmation of municipal entities in accordance with the Local Government Act (LGA) of 2018. The exercise included stakeholder consultations, desk reviews, inception meetings, and field assessments to evaluate compliance with statutory requirements.

The assessment was guided by Section 2.16(d) of the LGA, which requires a minimum area of 3.5 square miles, a population of at least 10,000 residents, and demonstrated economic viability. Additional indicators assessed included access to basic services, infrastructure, governance structures, and land use systems.

The assessment confirmed 137 cities nationwide, compared to 141 identified through previous records. Of the confirmed cities, 33 met the statutory requirements, while 104 did not satisfy one or more criteria. Major gaps included insufficient population size, limited infrastructure and utilities, weak service delivery systems, and inadequate municipal records management.

| # | Category | Number of cities |
|---|---|---|
| 1 | Cities Meeting Statutory Requirements | 33 |
| 2 | Cities Not Meeting Requirements | 104 |
| 3 | Total Confirmed Cities | 137 |

To address the identified gaps, the Department recommended a coordinated re-chartering and urban development program focusing on municipal boundary regularization, infrastructure improvement, strengthened local governance, and economic development. A national validation meeting will be convened before submission of the final report to the Legislature through the Presidency, in accordance with the Local Government Act.

### 3.3.2 Reaffirmation of Townships and Boroughs

During the reporting period, the Department of Urban Affairs conducted a nationwide reassessment of townships and boroughs across Liberia to determine their compliance with the Local Government Act of 2018. The exercise involved consultations with local authorities and stakeholders, field assessments, and data analysis supported by ArcGIS, KoboCollect, and Google Sheets.

The assessment applied the criteria outlined in Section 2.16(e) of the Act, including a minimum population of 5,000 residents, viable economic activities, and the availability of essential public services and infrastructure.

Findings confirmed 265 townships and one borough, compared to 295 townships identified through desk review. Only 18 townships met all statutory requirements. These were located in Bomi, Grand Bassa, Margibi, and Montserrado Counties, with Montserrado accounting for the majority of qualifying townships and the country's only qualifying borough.

| # | Category | Number of Townships |
|---|---|---|
| 1 | Townships Meeting Requirements | 18 |
| 2 | Townships Not Meeting Requirements | 247 |
| 3 | Total Confirmed Townships | 265 |

The assessment identified challenges relating to unclear boundaries, inadequate infrastructure, weak service delivery, limited economic activity, and poor administrative records. The Department recommended a comprehensive re-charting program to strengthen local governance, improve infrastructure and spatial planning, enhance service delivery, and promote local economic development. Additionally, progress was made in developing a draft Standard Operational Framework (SOF) to improve coordination, accountability, and collaboration among local government stakeholders. The draft framework is currently undergoing stakeholder validation

### 3.3.3 International engagement

The Hon. Deputy Minister Fatima Bintu Sirleaf participated in the 80th Session of the UN General Assembly High-Level Meeting in New York, highlighting socio-economic transformation as essential to achieving Agenda 2063: The Africa We Want. Her remarks emphasized five key priorities for adequate and sustainable housing: strong policy and regulatory frameworks, good governance and partnerships, integrated urban planning, environmental sustainability, and people-centered development. She stressed the need for affordable housing finance, stronger local government collaboration, essential urban services, climate resilience, and meaningful community participation to create inclusive, livable, equitable, and sustainable cities.

Minister Fatima Bintu Sirleaf also represented the department and the Ministry of Local Government at the 13$^{th}$ session of the World Urban Forum (WUF) held on 17 May 2026. Her participation highlighted Liberia's urban development priorities and strengthened international partnerships toward inclusive, resilient, sustainable, and people-centered urban development.

### 3.3.4 Staff Capacity Building

Four staff from the department of Urban Affairs participated in 4-day local training and professional development activities at the ministry of local government where they gain substantial knowledge on the concept of decentralization, Mandate, Power and Structure of the local government act of 2025, the local government act of 2018, Leadership and Supervision (work Ethics and Professionalism), CSA Standing Order (Dos and Don'ts of Civil Servants), Work Plan and Report Writing (Quarter and Annual), Memo Writing, Effective Communication, and Coordination, Gender Concept (Gender Mainstreaming, Equality and Social Inclusion) etc.

### 3.3.6 Challenges

- Lack of working tools and equipment
- Deficiency in staff capacity

### 3.3.7 Recommendations

- Provide computers, GPS/GIS tools, printers, data storage, and other technical equipment.
- Support continuous local and international training and professional development.

### 3.3.8 Plans for the next Quarters

The Department's immediate priority is to complete the validation of the Reaffirmation of Cities, Towns and Boroughs findings. The validation will review field records, GPS information, photographs, infrastructure and service information, population and demographic information, and administrative records; conduct stakeholder validation; resolve discrepancies; and prepare the final reaffirmation report.

## 3.4 Department of Administration

### 3.4.1 Gender and Social Inclusion Unit (GSIU)

The Ministry of Local Government, through its Gender and Social Inclusion Unit (GSIU), conducted a four-day technical workshop in Cestos City to strengthen inclusive governance and gender-responsive planning at the county level. Grounded in the 2018 Local Government Act, the 2019 Public Financial Management Law, and Liberia's decentralization agenda, the workshop aimed to enhance local capacity for Gender-Responsive Planning and Budgeting (GRPB) and the integration of social inclusion considerations into county development processes.

*Participation*

The workshop brought together 54 participants from Maryland, Rivercess, Sinoe, and Grand Gedeh Counties, alongside technical staff from the Ministry of Local Government and the Ministry of Finance and Development Planning. The participation of women, youth, and persons with disabilities reflected the commitment to inclusive local governance and broad stakeholder representation.

*Key Discussions*

Sessions focused on the decentralization framework and the implementation of the Local Government Act, emphasizing the functions of County Development Planning Units and County Councils in participatory local development. Participants examined GRPB principles, gender-sensitive budgeting tools, expenditure tracking mechanisms, and approaches for integrating sex-disaggregated data into planning, budgeting, and reporting systems.




***Group photo of participants and facilitators at the GISU activity***

*Challenges*

Key challenges identified included persistent social norms limiting women's leadership opportunities, underrepresentation of marginalized groups in decision-making structures, inadequate accessibility for persons with disabilities, weak monitoring systems, and limited budgetary allocations for gender-responsive interventions.

*Recommendations*

Participants recommended strengthening county gender units, establishing dedicated budget lines for gender-responsive programs, institutionalizing the collection and use of sex-disaggregated data, conducting regular gender audits, and enhancing collaboration with community stakeholders.

## 3.5 Bureau of Culture and Tradition

The Bureau of Culture and Tradition worked with local authorities and traditional leaders to promote compliance with **Circular #002** and strengthen adherence to cultural governance standards across Liberia.

### SOP Validation and Cultural Governance

The Bureau, in partnership with the Ministry of Gender, UN-Women, and other stakeholders, validated the Standard Operating Procedure for the Vocational Heritage Centers in Lofa, Nimba, Grand Cape Mount, and Montserrado Counties.

### Community Dialogue and Harmful Practices

The Bureau engaged traditional leaders through community dialogue to address harmful cultural practices and enhance mediation mechanisms within communities.

### Conflict Resolution and Social Cohesion

The Bureau facilitated the resolution of local disputes, including a conflict between traditional communities and the Inland Church in Lofa County, resulting in an agreement that supported peaceful coexistence and land allocation for church development.

### Cultural Heritage Centers and Capacity Building

During the establishment of the Council of Traditional Leaders in Africa (COTLA) Liberia Chapter, Assistant Minister William Jallah reported that 300 traditional practitioners were trained and 20 Village Savings and Loan Association groups were linked to microfinance opportunities.

### Program Challenges

Key challenges affecting implementation included limited funding, resistance from some traditional actors, and weaknesses in monitoring, evaluation, and data collection systems.

### Administrative Investigations

An investigation involving former Grand Bassa County Culture Director Philip Paye and Chief Elder Joe Johnson was initiated but suspended due to the illness of one of the parties and will resume later.

### Cultural Leadership and National Solidarity

The Bureau also supported traditional leadership activities, including the participation of Assistant Minister William Jallah and Paramount Chiefs in the burial rites of the late Paramount Chief James Pah Saye of River Gee County.

## 3.6 Customary Marriage and Divorce Certificates

### 3.6.1 Civil Status and Legal Documentation Performance Report

The Bureau of Legal Affairs continued to fulfill its statutory mandate of processing and issuing Customary Civil Status Certificates, including Marriage Certificates, Divorce Certificates, Contracts, and Ministerial Case Reviews. During the quarter, improvements in processing efficiency were recorded following reforms that centralized revenue collection and payment

verification through the Finance Division, enhancing transparency and accountability. However, overall demand for marriage and divorce documentation declined compared to previous periods, largely due to the indefinite suspension of the U.S. Diversity Visa (DV-2026) Program, which has historically driven significant demand for civil status documentation. Despite resource limitations, the Bureau maintained service delivery and resolved most cases received.

### 3.6.2 Operational Performance and Case Analysis

The Bureau received a total of 97 applications and cases across four service categories and successfully resolved 88, representing an overall resolution rate of 90.7 percent. Nine cases remained pending at the end of the quarter due to ongoing verification processes, contested claims, and delays in payment confirmation. Marriage certificate applications constituted the largest share of the Bureau's workload, followed by divorce cases, which often required extensive investigations and legal review due to disputes among parties. Together, marriage and divorce matters accounted for 92.8 percent of all Bureau operations during the quarter.

| Case / Document Description | Quantity Received | Quantity Issued / Resolved | Quantity Pending | Resolution Rate (%) |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Marriage Certi. Applications | 60 | 55 | 5 | 91.7% |
| Divorce Cases | 30 | 26 | 4 | 86.7% |
| Contracts | 6 | 6 | 0 | 100.0% |
| Ministry's Cases | 1 | 1 | 0 | 100.0% |
| Total | 97 | 88 | 9 | 90.7% |

### 3.6.3 Technical and Systemic Observations

The centralized revenue management system contributed to improved service delivery by eliminating informal payment channels, enhancing financial oversight, and reducing processing delays. Nevertheless, pending marriage and divorce cases underscored the need for stronger verification mechanisms and timely administrative follow-up. The Bureau also handled reports of fraudulent marriage and divorce certificates circulating in the public domain, highlighting continuing vulnerabilities in document security and public awareness of authorized certification processes.

### 3.6.4 Challenges

Low staff remuneration and the absence of performance incentives. Inadequate supply of stationery, paper, ink, and other operational materials. Lack of functional computers in key offices supporting legal and investigative functions. Limited opportunities for specialized training in civil registry management and fraud detection.

### 3.6.5 Recommendations

Intensify public awareness on legal registration procedures and certificate verification. Procure essential ICT equipment and office supplies to improve service delivery. Digitize registry records to strengthen security, verification, and records management. Provide regular professional development training for Bureau personnel. Gradually decentralize marriage certificate processing to county administrative offices after adequate staff capacity building.

## 3.7 National Council of Chiefs Support Office (NCC-SO)

### Institutional Strengthening

The NCC-SO advanced traditional governance reforms through the placement of Paramount Chiefs on the national payroll, restructuring of the National Council of Chiefs, leadership capacity development, and plans for improved cultural and administrative infrastructure.

### Human Rights, Gender, and Cultural Transformation

In partnership with UN Women, traditional leaders were engaged in dialogue and advocacy initiatives aimed at addressing FGM/C, child marriage, SGBV, and promoting sustainable alternative livelihoods.

### National Reconciliation and Transitional Justice

The NCC-SO participated in community outreach and peacebuilding activities to raise awareness on the proposed War and Economic Crimes Court and Anti-Corruption Court while encouraging citizen participation in reconciliation processes.

### Key Recommendations

Priority actions include enhancing logistical support, improving infrastructure, expanding legal literacy on the Local Government Act, strengthening compensation for traditional leaders, and ensuring effective preparations for the National Assembly of Chiefs.







3.8

## 3.8 National Concession Conflicts Resolution Office (NCCRO)



During Quarter Two 2026, the National Concession Conflicts Resolution Office (NCCRO) achieved an 85% resolution rate for active grievance cases, strengthening mediation, case management, and community engagement efforts. Employment and livelihood concerns remained the most common grievances reported by concession-affected communities.

### 3.8.1 Performance and Operational Highlights

NCCRO managed three major conflict cases, conducted a Reflect and Review Session, and carried out three community outreach activities reaching 237 participants across 11 communities in Nimba, Margibi, and Sinoe Counties. The Office also enhanced institutional capacity through training for Concession Monitoring Officers and the revision of Standard Operating Procedures to improve service delivery and response effectiveness.

### 3.8.2 Key Interventions

NCCRO successfully mediated disputes involving major concession operators, including Golden Veroleum Liberia, ArcelorMittal Liberia, Orange Liberia, Jeety Rubber Liberia Limited, and Mano Palm Oil Plantation. These interventions addressed issues related to community benefits, land compensation, rental obligations, stakeholder engagement, and compliance with Community Development Fund commitments, helping to restore dialogue, strengthen community-company relations, and promote operational stability.

### 3.8.3 Challenges and Strategic Recommendations

The effectiveness of the National Concession Conflicts Resolution Office (NCCRO) was constrained by inadequate operational resources, declining donor support, the politicization of community grievances, and unilateral concession decisions that heightened tensions in host communities. To address these challenges, Government should provide sustained budgetary and logistical support to NCCRO, enforce inclusive stakeholder consultations in concession governance, strengthen public awareness of grievance redress mechanisms, and institutionalize restorative mediation and early warning systems to prevent conflicts and enhance accountability among concessionaires and affected communities.

# 4.1 Nimba County

## 4.1.1 Introduction

Nimba County, with Sanniquellie as its capital and Ganta as its commercial hub, maintained a peaceful and stable environment throughout the second quarter of 2026. The county comprises 19 administrative districts and has an estimated population of 621,841. The county administration operates with an authorized workforce of 891 personnel, including 445 payroll and 446 off-payroll staff, with a monthly payroll obligation of US$159,281.92.

### 4.1.2 Administrative Activities

The County Administration continued to promote peace, security, governance, and socioeconomic development through a series of interventions during the quarter. Major activities included stakeholder engagements on cross-border security and peacebuilding issues, public awareness campaigns on firearm registration and HIV/AIDS prevention, mediation of land and boundary disputes, monitoring of concession operations, and collaboration with national institutions and development partners. The administration also supported education initiatives, community development activities, and the delivery of decentralized public services across the county.

### 4.1.3 County and Social Development Projects (CSDF/CDFC)

The county recorded significant progress in infrastructure and community development. Seven projects were completed during the reporting period, including schools, commissioner compounds, and community facilities. Several additional projects are nearing completion, including the Tappita Governance Residence, Zuaplay Maternity Waiting Home, Gbanquoi Commissioner Office Renovation, Kpaye Karnwin School, and Ganwee Commissioner Office. Furthermore, twenty-one capital development projects remain under review by the Public Procurement and Concessions Commission (PPCC), focusing on education, financial services, tourism, and critical road and bridge infrastructure.

| No. | Planned Activity | Location | Status | Company Responsible |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | Zeiplay Public School | Zoe-Gbao Administrative District | Complete | United Venture Inc. |
| 2 | Payee Commissioner Compound | Gbor Administrative District | Complete | United Venture Inc. |
| 3 | Beeplay Commissioner Compound | Buu-Yao Administrative District | Complete | Trust Engineering & Construction Company |
| 4 | Saywah Memorial High School Science Lab | Buu-Yao Administrative District | Complete | Southeastern Community Builders Inc. |
| 5 | Kpowin Commissioner Compound | Mehnsonoh Administrative District | Complete | Trust & Faith Construction Company |
| 6 | Toweh Town Commissioner Office & Hand Pumps | Boe-Quilla Administrative District | Complete | Rural Water Supply, Sanitation & General Construction |
| 7 | Doru Commissioner's Compound | Gbi-Doru Administrative District | Complete | Supreme Royal Construction & Engineering Company |

In addition, the administration completed the Sanniquellie Main Street tree-line project, resolved several major land disputes, and officially dedicated a number of completed 2025 CDFC projects, including schools and commissioner offices across multiple districts.

### 4.1.4 County Asset Inventory

The county maintains a modest asset base, with transport assets generally in good condition. However, shortages of computers, printers, and other office equipment continue to affect administrative efficiency and service delivery.

| Asset Category | Administration Fleet | CSDF Fleet | Operational Condition |
|---|---|---|---|
| Motor Vehicles | 2 | 5 | Good |
| Computers | 1 | 0 | Fair |
| Printers | 1 | 0 | Fair |
| Motorbikes | 0 | 59 | Good |

### 4.1.5 Inter-Institutional Coordination

The County Administration sustained strong coordination with line ministries, security agencies, concession companies, non-governmental organizations, and local authorities through regular management, cabinet, county security, and development meetings. These engagements facilitated effective governance, improved information sharing, and enhanced service delivery throughout the county.

### 4.1.6 Challenges and Recommendations

Limited transportation capacity and poor road conditions remain major constraints to monitoring, supervision, and outreach, particularly in remote communities. To improve service delivery, security oversight, and development monitoring, the county requires additional operational vehicles and increased investment in road rehabilitation and maintenance.

## 4.2 Rivercess County

### 4.2.1 Overview

During the second quarter of 2026, the Rivercess County Administration advanced key infrastructure, governance, and community development initiatives. Major achievements included the commencement of Phase I rehabilitation works on the 43-kilometre Yarpah Town-Garpu Town Road, ongoing rehabilitation of the 20-bedroom County Guest House, and substantial completion of renovations at the County Multi-Purpose Hall. The Administration also submitted the 2026 County Development Fund Draft Plan and Budget to the County Council for review and facilitated two County Development Steering Committee meetings to strengthen coordination among government institutions and development partners.

In support of citizen engagement and inclusive development, the Administration collaborated with development partners to recruit Community-Based Agents and conducted six district-level engagement sessions across the county. Additionally, a fact-finding mission led by the Ministry of Local Government investigated allegations of unauthorized chief removals and concluded that the claims could not be substantiated.

#### 4.2.2 Challenges and Recommendation

Despite these accomplishments, implementation was constrained by heavy rainfall, which affected road rehabilitation activities, as well as persistent boundary disputes, emerging land encroachment concerns, and limited coordination among local stakeholders. To address these challenges, the Administration recommends strengthening stakeholder collaboration, accelerating the deployment of County Council Support Officers, improving information-sharing mechanisms, and expediting the resolution of territorial and boundary disputes.

## 4.3 Grand Bassa County

Grand Bassa County's Q2 2026 investments prioritized human capital development and improved public service delivery. Education and Human Capital Development received the largest allocation at **US$657,500 (36.8%)**, followed by Administrative Facilities and Public Services at **US$601,900 (33.7%)**. Together, these sectors accounted for over **70%** of total investments, reflecting the county's focus on educational advancement, institutional strengthening, and decentralized governance. Major projects such as the **Own Your Own School (US$385,000)** and **Superintendent Compound Renovation (US$345,000)** represented significant capital investments. Additional spending on health facilities, roads, drainage systems, markets, and bridges further supported improved service delivery and socio-economic development.

### 4.3.3 Project Portfolio Status Distribution

Project implementation remained strong during the quarter. Of the **20 monitored projects**, **8 (40%)** were completed, **5 (25%)** were near completion, and **7 (35%)** were ongoing. Overall, **65%** of projects had reached completion or advanced implementation stages by quarter-end.

### 4.3.4 Challenges

Despite positive progress, implementation faced challenges due to delays in the disbursement of **County Development Fund (CDF)** and **Social Development Fund (SDF)** allocations. These delays affected contractor cash flow and contributed to schedule adjustments for several major projects, including the **Own Your Own School** and **Superintendent Compound Renovation** initiatives.

### 4.3.5 Condensed Project Matrix

| No. | Project Title | Budget (USD) | Location | Status |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | Bokay Town Market Completion | 33,500 | Bokay Town, District 1 | Ongoing |
| 2 | Comp. 1 Football Field Fencing | 43,000 | Compound | Completed |
| 3 | Baa Bridge | 115,000 | St. John River City | Completed |
| 4 | Mini Park Completion | 50,000 | Boulevard, Buchanan | Completed |
| 5 | County Administrative Building | 100,900 | Buchanan City | Completed |
| 6 | Drainage System | 30,000 | Buchanan City | Completed |
| 7 | Edina Magisterial Court | 22,500 | Edina City | Completed |
| 8 | J.J. Cheesman School | 52,500 | Edina City | Completed |
| 9 | Buchanan Roads Rehabilitation | 30,000 | Buchanan City | Completed |
| 10 | Harmonsville Adm Building | 39,000 | Harmonsville, Dist. 4 | Near Completion |
| 11 | Lloydsville Clinic | 39,000 | District 1 | Near Compl. |
| 12 | Doegbahn Clinic | 120,000 | District 4 | Near Completion |
| 13 | Boglay Clinic | 49,000 | District 2 | Near Completion |
| 14 | Lloydsville Admin. Building | 39,000 | District 1 | Near Completion |
| 15 | Own Your Own School | 385,000 | Buchanan City | Ongoing |
| 16 | Superintendent Comp. Renovation | 345,000 | Buchanan | Ongoing |
| 17 | Buchanan District Hall | 39,000 | Buchanan | Ongoing |
| 18 | Benson River School | 220,000 | Benson River | Ongoing |
| 19 | Lloydsville Market | 50,000 | Lloydsville | Ongoing |









## 4.4 Bong County

### 4.4.1 Introduction

During the second quarter of FY 2026, the Bong County Administration monitored key infrastructure, development, and governance initiatives across the county. Priority activities included assessments of the Gbarnga–Salayea Highway, the proposed Cooper Town Bridge, urban infrastructure in Gbarnga City, and rehabilitation of public facilities affected by severe windstorms. Despite funding and logistical challenges, the County Administration continued to oversee critical development interventions and public service infrastructure.

### 4.4.2 Key Interventions and Project Implementation

Technical assessments confirmed the completion of the Maternal Waiting Home in Yowee, pending commissioning. Reviews of the Gbarnga–Salayea Highway identified the need for additional drainage and road safety improvements, while the Cooper Town Bridge feasibility study highlighted its importance for transportation, trade, and service delivery. Urban assessments in Gbarnga City also revealed drainage, traffic, and right-of-way management challenges.

Several development projects advanced during the quarter. The E.J. Yancy Library, Lelekpayea Market, and Zamkpayeamah Public Elementary School reached near completion, while the Gbarney Town Hall, Presidential Palace renovation, Behweh Elementary School, and U-Lah Clinic remained under construction. Following severe windstorms in April 2026, emergency rehabilitation was undertaken on government buildings and community facilities, including roof replacement and structural repairs.

### 4.4.3 Challenges

Implementation was affected by delayed releases of County Development Fund (CDF) and Social Development Fund (SDF) resources, adverse weather conditions, limited logistics for field monitoring, and contractor performance issues. These constraints slowed project delivery and reduced monitoring effectiveness across the county.

### 4.4.4 Recommendations

The County Administration recommends commissioning the Yowee Maternal Waiting Home, addressing deficiencies along the Gbarnga–Salayea Highway, enforcing urban planning regulations in Gbarnga City, strengthening drainage infrastructure, and prioritizing funding for the proposed Cooper Town Bridge and rural road connectivity projects.

### 4.4.6 Completed Infrastructure and Technical Assessments

| No. | Project | Status | Location | Funding Source |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | Maternal Waiting Home | Complete (Pending Commissioning | Yowee, Zota District | GOL |
| 2 | Gbarnga–Salayea Highway Technical Assessment (81 km) | Assessment Completed | Gbarnga to Salayea | GOL |
| 3 | Cooper Town Bridge Feasibility Study | Completed | Cooper Town Area | N/A |
| 4 | Gbarnga Urban Street Network & Drainage Assessment | Ongoing | Gbarnga City | N/A |

### 4.4.7 Project Status Summary

| No. | Project | Contractor | Location | Status |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | E.J. Yancy Library | Sesay Brothers Bus. Center | Totota City | Nearing Complet. |
| 2 | Lelekpayea Market | Siakei Group of Comp. Inc. | Jorwuelleh #2 | Nearing Completi. |
| 3 | Zamkpayeamah Public Elem. Sch. | Siakei Group of Companies Inc. | Fuamah District | Nearing Completion |
| 4 | Gbarney Town Hall | Lassana Enterprise Inc. | Gbarnga | Ongoing |
| 5 | Presidential Palace Renovation | Sesay Brothers Bus. Center | Gbarnga | Ongoing |
| 6 | Behweh Elementary School | Jeanmco Inc. | Behweh Town | Ongoing |
| 7 | U-Lah Clinic | Jeanmco Inc. | U-Lah Town | Ongoing |
| 8 | Sanoyea Market Construction | Korlah & Son Constr. Co. | Sanoyea Dist. | Pending |
| 9 | Sanoyea Maternal Waiting Home | LED Construction Co. | Sanoyea Dist. | Pending |
| 10 | Quayaqulleh School Const. | Korlah & Son Constr. Co. | Jorquelleh #2 | Pending |
| 11 | Bellefina Sch. Annex Constr. | Loiter Constr. Company | Zota District | Pending |
| 12 | Gonema School Construction | Comm. Builders Investment | Suakoko Dist. | Pending |
| 13 | Mano Wainsue Sch. Construct. | Lib Mainland Dev't Co. Inc. | Jorquelleh #2 | Pending |
| 14 | Konowolala Comm. Residence | Save Space Constr. Ltd. | Totota City | Pending |

## 4.5 SINOE COUNTY

### 4.5.1 Introduction

This report presents the status of priority development projects monitored by the County Development Planning Unit (CDPU) in Sinoe County during the second quarter of FY 2026. Monitoring activities assessed project progress, quality of implementation, compliance with approved plans, and key challenges through field inspections, stakeholder consultations, and verification of physical works against approved specifications.

### 4.5.2 Local Government Portfolio



The CDPU monitored six local government projects focused on improving administrative infrastructure, governance, urban mobility, and flood mitigation. These projects include renovations of the County Administration Building, Chiefs' Guest House, and J. Dominic Bing City Hall, as well as the construction and rehabilitation of key public infrastructure.

### 4.5.3 Central Government Portfolio

Five central government projects were monitored during the quarter. These interventions are aimed at expanding access to electricity, strengthening climate resilience, and improving water and sanitation services across the county. Despite logistical and accessibility constraints, monitoring confirmed continued implementation of all projects at varying stages of completion.

Overall, the projects remain aligned with Liberia's decentralization agenda, the ARREST Agenda for Inclusive Development (AAID), the County Development Agenda (CDA), and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Their successful completion is expected to enhance governance, infrastructure, public utilities, environmental protection, and socio-economic development in Sinoe County. The CDPU remains committed to strengthening oversight, transparency, accountability, and evidence-based decision-making in accordance with the Local Government Act of 2018.

### 4.5.4 Projects Undertaken

| # | Project | Contractor/partner | Cost & Source | Duration | Location | Status |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | Renovation of Sinoe County Admin Building | Triple J Inc. | US$62,625 (CDF) | 01/04/2025–19/07/2026 | Greenville | 75% Complete |
| 2 | Renovation of J. Dominic Bing City Hall | BUNII | US$101,069.50 (CDF) | 27/02/2025–19/07/2026 | Greenville | 81% Complete |
| 3 | Renovation of Sinoe County Chiefs' Guest House | Buildphine Enterprise Inc. | US$35,799 (CDF) | 27/01/2025–19/07/2026 | Greenville | 80% Complete |
| 4 | Fencing of Sup't. Compound | Triple J Inc. | US$22,000 (CDF) | 29/04/2026–29/07/2026 | Greenville | 70% Complete |
| 5 | Construction of St. Johnston Twin Box Culvert | GACI | US$110,000 (CDF) | 29/04/2026–29/08/2026 | Greenville | 40% Complete |
| 6 | Construction of 833kW Solar Photovoltaic Power Plant | RREA, MPW, MLG, MBH, Tarhini | EU Funding | 2025–30/06/2026 | Murrayville Township | Completed; Awaiting Turnover |
| 7 | Construction of Electric Power Distribution System | RREA, MPW, MBH, County Administration | EU Funding | 2025–31/12/2026 | Greenville & Environs | Ongoing |
| 8 | Construction of 2MW Hydroelectric Power Plant | RREA, MPW, MLG, MBH, Constar | US$13.2 Million (EU) | 2025–31/12/2027 | Saywoo Town | Ongoing |
| 9 | Greenville Coastal Defense Project | EPA, UNDP, GEF, MME, MPW, County Administration | UNDP/GEF Funding | 2024–Ongoing | Greenville | Ongoing |
| 10 | Rehabilitation of Greenville City Streets and Alleys | County Administration, GVL, Citizens | US$250,000 | 22/01/2026–Ongoing | Greenville | Ongoing |
| 11 | Restoration of Greenville Water and Sewage System | LWSC, County Administration | PSIP | Ongoing | Greenville | Ongoing |

### 4.5.5 Challenges

Limited financial and logistical resources for routine monitoring activities.
Adverse weather conditions affecting construction schedules.
Delays in addressing technical variations and revised work plans.
Insufficient integration of gender and disability inclusion measures.

### 4.5.6 Recommendations

Strengthen logistical and financial support for project monitoring and reporting. Conduct regular joint monitoring missions with key stakeholders. Enhance coordination and periodic review meetings among implementing agencies. Strengthen technical supervision and quality assurance mechanisms. Integrate gender, disability, youth, and social inclusion considerations into project implementation.

## 4.6 Bomi County

### 4.6.1 Introduction

This report presents the monitoring and evaluation findings on ongoing infrastructure construction and renovation projects funded under the County Development Projects in Bomi County. The assessment reviewed project implementation progress, key achievements, challenges, and recommendations during the reporting period.



***Tubmanburg City Guests House***

Project implementation recorded limited physical progress due to significant operational constraints, particularly delays in the disbursement of County Development Funds (CDF) and Social Development Funds (SDF). Despite these challenges, county authorities maintained oversight and monitoring of all project sites.

Monitoring activities were conducted by a multi-sectoral team comprising the County Development Officer, County Project Planner, representatives of MFDP, MGCSP, LISGIS, the County Engineer, Internal Auditor, Civil Society Organizations, and community stakeholders. The team carried out site inspections, technical assessments, compliance checks, and risk evaluations to ensure accountability and document project status.

### 4.6.2 Challenges and Constraints

The major challenge affecting project implementation was the delayed release of CDF and SDF allocations by the National Government. This resulted in stalled procurement processes, delayed contractor payments, and suspension of activities across several project sites.
Additionally, the poor condition of the road leading to Kpakalla Town continues to hamper the transportation of construction materials, equipment, and personnel, thereby affecting progress on the Kpakalla Town Health Center Project in Suehn/Mecca District.

### 4.6.3 Recommendations

The Ministry of Finance and Development Planning should expedite the release of CDF and SDF allocations to enable the resumption and completion of ongoing projects.
Urgent rehabilitation of the Kpakalla Town access road is required to facilitate the movement of construction materials and support implementation of the health center project.
Regular multi-stakeholder monitoring should be sustained to ensure accountability and support the timely resumption of project activities once funding becomes available.

## 4.7 Grand Cape Mount County

### 4.7.1 Introduction

The Grand Cape Mount County Second Quarter Report (April to June 2026) highlights key administrative, development, and financial activities undertaken by the county administration. Despite resource limitations, payroll challenges, and difficult rainy season conditions, the county advanced governance initiatives, supported infrastructure development, and strengthened anti-drug enforcement efforts.

### 4.7.2 Financial Performance

During the quarter, the county received US$74,400.00 from the Social Development Fund (SDF/GOL). Combined with a brought-forward balance of US$975.26, total funds available amounted to US$75,375.26. Total expenditures reached US$73,751.00, leaving a closing balance of US$1,624.26 as of 30 June 2026.

| Expense Item | Expenditure (USD) |
|---|---|
| GCMC Sports Steering Committee (Tranche 1) | $21,000.00 |
| GCMC Administration / A.D. Quayjandii II | $2,000.00 |
| GCMC Sports Steering Committee (Tranche 2) | $19,000.00 |
| GCMC Sports Steering Committee (Tranche 3) | $25,000.00 |
| GCMC Youth Secretariat | $6,500.00 |
| GCMC Land Authority Office | $250.00 |
| Bank Service Charges | $1.00 |
| Total Expenditures | $73,751.00 |

### 4.7.3 Key Development Initiatives

Titan Group of Companies proposed the acquisition of 1,000 acres in Paasawe Clan for the development of a solar farm near the ECOWAS substation, with surveys currently underway. Negotiations are also ongoing for the allocation of 250 hectares in Jalibah Clan for the Riverside Energy Project. Construction of WAHO Hospital is nearing completion, while WaterAid Liberia continues the installation of pipe-borne water at Diah Community Clinic. Five government-supported farms established through WFP and IOM remain operational. Road construction activities have slowed due to heavy rains, although negotiations for additional land access continue under the ECOWAS Road Connectivity Project. Bea Mountain Mining

Corporation is conducting soil testing in Nagbena and Gbessseh, while illegal dredging and river mining activities remain a growing concern requiring urgent intervention.

### 4.7.4 Anti-Drug Enforcement and Narcotics Crackdown

Anti-drug operations conducted across border crossings, checkpoints, cultivation areas, and mining communities resulted in 33 arrests and the seizure of narcotics valued at US$38,176.77 (LD 6,817,820). Liberians accounted for 72.73% of arrests, while Sierra Leoneans and Nigerians represented 24.24% and 3.03%, respectively. Cocaine constituted the highest share of seized substances by value (56.97%), followed by Tramadol (35.76%), Marijuana (6.31%), and Kush (0.95%).

### 4.7.5 Key Challenges and Recommendations

| Challenges | Recommendations |
|---|---|
| Payroll discrepancies, delayed salary payments, and uncoordinated staff verification schedules. | Strengthen coordination between the Civil Service Agency, commercial banks, and county authorities through regular payroll audits and synchronized verification exercises. |
| Vacancy of the District Commissioner position in Porkpa District and lack of National Identification Cards for some local officials. | Expedite leadership appointments and facilitate targeted National Identification Registry enrollment for local authorities. |
| Limited outreach of the County Service Center due to poor road conditions, inadequate transportation, weak internet connectivity, and shortages of office supplies. | Rehabilitate priority feeder roads and provide vehicles, ICT equipment, and operational resources to improve service delivery. |
| Ongoing illegal foreign dredging and mining activities threaten environmental sustainability and local livelihoods. | Intensify joint monitoring and enforcement operations involving the Ministry of Mines and Energy, security agencies, and affected communities. |

## 4.8 Maryland County

### 4.8.1 Introduction

From 1 to 15 July 2026, the Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) Team conducted an assessment of development projects across Maryland County. The exercise reviewed implementation progress, verified completion levels, and identified key constraints affecting projects funded under the County Development Agenda (CDA), Public Sector Investment Program (PSIP), and County Development Fund (CDF).

### 4.8.2 Project Implementation Status Matrix

| Project Name | Location/District | Contractor | Funding Source | Completion Status | Current Status |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Gboloken Primary School | Gboloken | Technical Works | CDA/PSIP | 100% | Completed and ready for handover. |
| Judicial Compound | Maryland Administrative Zone | Strategic Contractor | CDA/PSIP | 100% | Completed and ready for operation. |
| Karloken City Hall | Karloken | Skill Engineering & Technical Services | CDA/PSIP | 10% | Construction commenced on 15 July 2026. |
| Whole Graway Primary School | Whole Graway | Pending Mobilization | CDA/PSIP | Planning Phase | Site mobilization ongoing. |
| Teachers Quarter | Cavalla, Harper District | MOABEL Incorporated | CDF | In Progress | Civil works progressing. |
| Cavalla River Bridge | Cavalla River Corridor | Technical Ops | CDA/PSIP | In Progress | Construction works ongoing. |
| Yellow Machines Facility | Philadelphia, Harper District | Heavy Engineering Team | CDF | In Progress | Facility construction ongoing. |
| Barrobo City Hall | Glofaken City, Barrobo District | Madama Star INC | CDA/CDF | 20% | Foundation completed; progress slowed by poor road access. |

The assessment confirmed that completed facilities met required construction standards, including installation of doors, concrete flooring, sanitation systems, and other essential fittings. Additionally, one acre of land was secured, surveyed, and deeded in Harper District for the proposed Ministry of Transport Regional Hub.

| No. | Project Name | Funding Source | Project Cost (USD) | Location | Status | Contractor |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | Karloken City Hall | CDA/PSIP | 185,888.52 | Karloken City | Construction commenced | Skill Engineering & Technical Service |
| 2 | Barrobo City Hall | CDA/PSIP | 115,754.29 | Glofaken City | 20% completed | Madama Star INC |
| 3 | Gboloken Primary School | CDF | 50,000.00 | Pleebo District | Completed (100%) | Morning Star Marketing |
| 4 | Teachers Quarter | CDF | 35,000.00 | Cavalla, Harper District | Ongoing | MOABEL Incorporated |

### 4.8.3 Challenges

Construction of Barrobo City Hall remains delayed due to poor road conditions along the Glofaken access corridor, disrupting transport of construction materials and increasing costs.
Heavy rainfall and deteriorating roads continue to hinder project supervision, logistics, and supply delivery across remote areas of the county.

### 4.8.4 Recommendations

- Conduct handover ceremonies for Gboloken Primary School and the Judicial Compound to facilitate immediate use.
- Improve critical road access to Barrobo/Glofaken to enable uninterrupted delivery of construction materials and accelerate project completion.
- Fast-track planning and budget integration for the Ministry of Transport Regional Hub on the newly acquired site.
- Expedite completion of the Yellow Machines Facility to ensure secure storage of county equipment and machinery.

## 4.9 GRAND KRU COUNTY

### 4.9.1 Introduction

During the second quarter (April–June 2026), Grand Kru County recorded progress in governance, infrastructure, education, health, and youth development under the ARREST Agenda. Key achievements included road and energy projects, school improvements, youth empowerment initiatives, and enhanced service delivery. However, funding delays, boundary disputes, illegal mining, and staffing shortages continue to hinder development.

### 4.9.2 County Service Center update

The County Service Center remained operational, delivering 263 public services and generating US$380 and L$481,085 in revenue during the reporting period.

### 4.9.3 Infrastructure, Energy and Roads

Infrastructure development advanced with the construction of a hub for yellow machines and a correctional facility. Preparatory activities continued for the 50-km Barclayville-Sasstown-Civilized Village road pavement project, while rehabilitation works progressed on the Karweaken-Buah Jlatehken-Naiplikpo corridor. The Barclayville Solar Power Grid Project also recorded progress with completion of perimeter fencing.

### 4.9.4 Education, Youth and Sports

The county completed and rehabilitated several education facilities, introduced Starlink internet and STEM learning support in selected schools, and relocated Grand Kru Technical College to its permanent campus. Enrollment reached 300 students, with 27 students preparing for the institution's first graduation. Additionally, 36 youth joined the CADET Program, 51 benefited from vacation jobs, and construction preparations began for a mini sports stadium.

### 4.9.5 Health and Public Safety

The Liberia Drug Enforcement Agency destroyed narcotics valued at over US$90,000 and L$17 million during World Drug Day activities. The health sector received an ambulance and an SUV, while 19 volunteer health workers were absorbed onto the government payroll.

### 4.9.6 Key Challenges

Delayed disbursement of County Development Funds and absence of a Social Development Fund.
Environmental degradation and safety concerns resulting from unregulated mining activities.
Large numbers of volunteer administrative and health workers remain off payroll.
Boundary disputes with Maryland and River Gee Counties, alongside traditional land conflicts.
Limited logistics, transportation, and service delivery capacity at the County Service Center.

### 4.9.7 Recommendations

Expedite resolution of county boundary disputes. Accelerate release of County Development Funds and concession-related revenues. Strengthen monitoring of mining operations and environmental compliance. Absorb remaining volunteer workers onto the government payroll. Fill the vacant Jloh Statutory District Superintendent position.

### 4.9.8 Projects Matrix (Grand Kru)

| No. | Project | Status | Funding Source | Remarks |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | Grand Kru Youth Center | Completed | CDF | Awaiting dedication |
| 2 | Nrokwia Clinic | Ongoing | CDF | 85% complete |
| 5 | Barclayville City Hall Renovation (Phase II) | Completed | CDF | Furnishing pending |
| 6 | Superintendent Compound Renovation | Completed | CDF | Completed |
| 7 | Children's Playground | Pending | CDF | Construction yet to commence |
| 8 | Correctional Palace | Ongoing | MOJ | Fencing nearing completion |
| 9 | Solar Grid Project | Ongoing | RREA/EU | Fencing completed |
| 10 | Mini Sports Stadium | Ongoing | GOL/CDDF | Site grading underway |
| 11 | Yellow Machines Hub | Ongoing | GOL | Fencing completed |
| 12 | GKTC Campus Annex | Ongoing | GOL/GKTC | At roof level |
| 13 | Voice of Grand Kru Radio Station Renovation | Completed | CDF/Partners | Completed with partner support |

- *Overall, Grand Kru County recorded notable gains in infrastructure, education, energy access, and youth development during the quarter. Sustained progress, however, will depend on timely funding disbursements, resolution of boundary disputes, strengthened regulation of mining activities, and improved staffing and logistics support*

## 4.10 Lofa County

### 4.10.1 Introduction

Lofa County continued to make notable progress during the second quarter of 2026 despite persistent administrative and infrastructure constraints. As a predominantly agricultural county, with approximately 90% of its population dependent on farming, development efforts focused on expanding rural infrastructure, improving access to energy and healthcare, strengthening local governance, and promoting economic growth. Several key projects in roads, irrigation, electrification, education, and judicial services advanced during the reporting period.

### 4.10.2 Economic Transformation and Agriculture

Agriculture remains the backbone of Lofa County's economy. Progress continued on the reconstruction of the Fangoda Dam in Kolahun, which is expected to support year-round irrigated rice production on approximately 250 acres. Road connectivity improved through the construction of over 129 km of farm-to-market roads under the Swedish-funded Village Access Road Project and the rehabilitation of 144 km of rural roads through the IFAD-supported Tree Crops Extension Project. Ongoing construction of mini-markets and commercial centers is expected to enhance opportunities for women traders and small-scale businesses. However, cross-border trade with Guinea continues to face occasional disruptions associated with issues at the Sorlumba border corridor.

### 4.10.3 Infrastructure, Energy, Healthcare and Governance

Major infrastructure investments gained momentum during the quarter. On May 23, 2026, President Joseph Nyuma Boakai, Sr. launched the paving of the 86-kilometer Medikorma-Voinjama Highway, a project expected to significantly improve mobility and economic activity. Rural electrification efforts also progressed, with 1.8 MW generators being tested to provide power to Voinjama, Kolahun, and Foya, while construction of the 4.0 MWp solar power project reached approximately 65% completion.

Healthcare services were strengthened through the donation of four ambulances to health facilities across the county. Notably, Vahun Health Center now has a resident medical doctor capable of performing surgeries and Caesarean sections, reducing referrals and improving access to specialized healthcare.

In the justice sector, construction commenced on a centralized Judicial Complex in Voinjama, while renovations to Criminal Court “E” and upgrades to the Voinjama Correction Center continued. Border tensions at Sorlumba were managed through diplomatic engagement, and several local land disputes were successfully mediated. Progress was also recorded in education and youth development, including efforts to place volunteer teachers on payroll and the continued development of Lofa County University as a degree-granting institution.

### 4.10.4 Challenges

The county administration faces severe transportation and logistical constraints, with limited vehicles, office equipment, and ICT resources. Inadequate banking and credit facilities continue to affect business growth and local economic activities. Delays and quality concerns on some road projects, particularly in Quardu-Gboni District, have left communities isolated. Additionally, prolonged volunteer status among skilled workers contributes to workforce attrition, while severe weather events caused damage to government infrastructure in Voinjama.

### 4.10.5 Recommendations

Priority should be given to strengthening the operational capacity of local government through the provision of vehicles, ICT equipment, and office infrastructure. Accelerated implementation and monitoring of road projects are needed to improve connectivity and ensure value for money. Expanding access to rural banking and timely disbursement of development funds would stimulate

local economic growth. The transition of volunteer teachers and health workers onto the government payroll should be expedited to retain skilled personnel, while local mediation mechanisms and cross-border diplomatic engagement should be maintained to preserve peace and social cohesion.

## 4.11 Montserrado County

### 4.11.1 Introduction

This report summarizes the major activities, achievements, and interventions implemented by the Montserrado County Administration during the second quarter of 2026 (April-June). The County Administration continued to support the Government of Liberia's ARREST Agenda through infrastructure development, improved service delivery, strengthened local governance, and enhanced coordination with government institutions, development partners, and local authorities.

### 4.11.2 County Administration and Development Interventions

During the reporting period, the County Administration focused on monitoring and implementing development projects, coordinating government programs, and strengthening collaboration among local authorities, traditional leaders, civil society organizations, and line ministries. These efforts contributed to improved governance, community participation, and service delivery across the county.

### 4.11.3 Project Implementation and Monitoring

Significant progress was recorded under ongoing County Development Fund (CDF) projects. The renovation of the Amagashe Market in Paynesville reached approximately 85 percent completion, improving conditions for traders and market users. Renovation of the Gbornuah Nurses' Quarters was completed, providing improved accommodation for healthcare workers. Construction of a protective fence around the Chocolate City Clinic advanced to approximately 65 percent completion, while sanitation facilities at the Fiamah Community Market and 17th Street ICA Camp were completed to enhance public health and hygiene. In addition, the Gardnersville Community Clinic extension was completed and awaits official dedication.

### 4.11.4 Water, Housing, and Development Coordination

The Sarah Johnson Water System project, which had stalled following the suspension of USAID-supported activities, was transitioned to World Hope International through the Ministry of Local Government and implementation resumed during the reporting period.

The Special Presidential Projects Coordinating Committee (SPPCC) recruitment process concluded with 61 applications received and forwarded to the Ministry of Local Government for review and processing. Additionally, in support of the County Development Agenda, land was identified in Bentol City for a proposed affordable housing project intended to expand access to decent housing for citizens. The Montserrado County Service Center, however, remained largely non-operational and requires additional support to effectively deliver public services.

### 4.11.3 Supervision of Local Authorities

The County Administration continued to exercise oversight over townships, cities, boroughs, and chiefdoms throughout Montserrado County. Regular monitoring visits and engagements with local authorities focused on strengthening governance, addressing community concerns, promoting accountability, and supporting the implementation of local ordinances. A key milestone during the quarter was the induction of elected council members in Arthington City on June 4, 2026, which reinforced community participation and local governance structures.

### 4.11.4 Key Events and Official Engagements

The Superintendent represented Montserrado County at several strategic national and international engagements during the quarter. In May 2026, participation in the 79th Global Leaders Summit in Switzerland provided an opportunity to engage in discussions on global health challenges and collaborative solutions.








The **79th Global Leaders' Summit held in Switzerland**



***Current status of Amagashe market***



**The Superintendent and MACs representatives at the County Development Steering Committee meeting held in the conference room of the County Administrative building**



**Current status of the Gbornuah nurses Quarter**



The current status of the Wasuah toilet project

## 4.12 Margibi County

### 4.12.1 Governance and Decentralization

During the second quarter of 2026, the Margibi County Administration continued to advance the Government of Liberia's decentralization agenda through active engagement in local governance, fiscal decentralization, and citizen participation initiatives. The Administration participated in the Ministry of Local Government's chartering discussions and supported the launch of the 2026 National Budget and Open Budget Initiative, promoting transparency, accountability, and improved local governance.

#### 4.12.2 Land Administration and Conflict Resolution

The County Administration made significant contributions to land governance through the presentation of customary land deeds to the Lawor-Ta and Kolleh Dapono communities and continued collaboration with the Liberia Land Authority on ongoing customary land disputes. Additionally, the Superintendent successfully mediated several community and institutional disputes, contributing to peace, stability, and social cohesion across the county.

### 4.12.3 Infrastructure and Service Delivery

Efforts to support local development included participation in the groundbreaking of a fire service station in Schieffelin Township, inspection of the Dolo Town Hospital project, and facilitation of stakeholder engagement for the rehabilitation of the Charleville Bridge. The Administration also advocated for expanded electricity access and monitored development interventions aimed at improving public services and community welfare.

### 4.12.4 Conclusion

The reporting period was marked by notable achievements in governance, land administration, infrastructure development, public safety, and conflict resolution. Through collaborative partnerships and responsive leadership, the Margibi County Administration continued to promote inclusive development, strengthen local institutions, and improve service delivery for the citizens of Margibi County

# CHAPTER 5: CONSOLIDATED CHALLENGES, LESSONS LEARNED AND RECOMMENDATIONS

## 5.1 Consolidated Challenges

Implementation of decentralization and county development initiatives during the second quarter faced persistent constraints. Delayed disbursement of CDF, SDF, and operational allotments slowed project implementation, contractor performance, and service delivery. Human resource shortages, including limited technical staff and large numbers of personnel remaining off payroll, reduced institutional effectiveness. Weak coordination, overlapping mandates, and inadequate stakeholder engagement further constrained implementation.

Infrastructure and logistical deficits remained significant, including poor road conditions, inadequate transportation, weak internet connectivity, and limited ICT equipment, particularly in rural counties. Boundary and land disputes, illegal mining, environmental degradation, and insufficient inclusion of women, youth, and persons with disabilities continued to affect governance and development outcomes.

## 5.2 Key Lessons Learned

The quarter demonstrated that citizen engagement strengthens accountability, public trust, and responsiveness to local needs. Capacity-building initiatives improved institutional performance, while collaboration among government institutions, development partners, civil society, and traditional leaders enhanced implementation effectiveness. The successful mediation of local disputes further highlighted the value of dialogue and stakeholder engagement in promoting peace and social cohesion.

## 5.3 Consolidated Recommendations

Prioritize timely disbursement of development funds, strengthen fiscal accountability, and expand local revenue generation efforts. Enhance staffing, payroll integration, and capacity-building for local government institutions and County Service Centers. Invest in roads, ICT infrastructure, logistics, and equipment to improve service delivery.

Accelerate decentralization of public services, strengthen intergovernmental coordination, and establish mechanisms to resolve boundary disputes and prevent conflicts. Finally, integrate gender equality, social inclusion, and environmental sustainability across all local governance and development interventions.

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