

Country Strategy Plan Summary

Plan Liberia



Country Strategic Plan for 2010 - 2014

“This document describes how Plan Liberia and its partners will mobilize the different resources to improve the welfare and prospects of vulnerable children. It provides the strategic framework for consistent and continued action from 2009 to 2014”.

About Liberia

Liberia is located on the West Coast of Africa. Sierra Leone borders it on the Northwest. Cote D'Ivoire on the East, West and South by the Atlantic Ocean.

The over 3.5 million people of Liberia with about 70% living in the rural areas are recovering from almost 14 years of civil war which has left the country in a very bad shape.

Plan Liberia Programme

Plan started operations in Liberia in 1982 and funded most of its programmes through child sponsorship with about 25,000 children at the peak of its operations.

Its main partners were children in the rural areas and the Government of Liberia through its main ministries like Interior, Foreign Affairs, Health, Education, Planning and Economic Affairs.

A lot of people died, properties were destroyed, most people fled the country, towns and villages to other areas and there was a collapse of basic services like water, electricity, schools and hospitals.



Some beneficiaries of Plan's educational programme.

The road to recovery is a gradual process because the major source of income is by consuming part of our farm products and selling the rest.

Plan had to leave in 1990 due to the civil war.

This brought a stop to all its programmes. In 2006, the International Board of Plan took a decision to return to Liberia to help the Liberian Government promote the growth and welfare of its children.

The focus now is on child protection and participation on health and educational issues by establishing quality basic education, early child care centres, youth development and assist with the financing of small-scale businesses.



Children presented their challenges.

Children In Liberia Have.....

- * Poor access to education and health care.
- * Poor access to potable water and sanitation.
- * Poor nutrition.
- * Child labour and trafficking.
- * Weak family values and communal support.
- * Gender inequality.
- * Sexual abuse.

How To Address These Problems

Plan Liberia’s goal is to create an atmosphere

where opinion leaders in the society would join hands to develop a responsible society to respect the rights to survival, protection, development and participation of children.

Objectives

- * Strengthen the capacity of government, parents and care givers to be responsible for protecting the rights of children.
- * Build the capacity of children through all their stages of life to actively participate and contribute to issues affecting their development and that of their environment.
- * To support the government and the rural areas by providing basic services that will promote the growth and well being of children.
- * To forge unity between Plan Liberia and partners to engage in child right education and responsibilities.



Early childhood care.

Child Protection And Child Participation Rights

To ensure that children in Liberia receive protection and be part of the participation process. Plan Liberia will:

- * Make sure that legislations that favour children’s protection and participation would be enforced.
- * Encourage the Government, District Assemblies, Plan and other partners to promote children’s rights.
- * Encourage child-to-child participation in decisions that affect them.
- * Every child should have a birth certificate.
- * Violence in Liberia schools should be reduced to the barest.

“This document was reviewed and edited by Plan Staff.”

Programme Approach

Plan Liberia will contribute to the developmental process in Liberia by consistently applying a child right based approach. This will not be difficult because of Plan’s experience throughout the region in child rights based development. The Country Strategic Plan Summary will form the main guideline for Plan’s work in Liberia.

These are:

1. Investing in human capital.
2. Building relationships and partnerships.
3. Education.
4. A life cycle approach to child development.
5. National outreach programme based on research for the rural areas.
6. Communications and advocacy.