

SECOND EDITION



THE WORLD BANK



**MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE**

SMALLHOLDER TREE CORPS REVITALIZATION SUPPORT PROJECT (STCRSP)

**Cocoa Revitalization:** rehabilitating, replanting and extension of cocoa farms (4,400 ha) in Bong, Nimba & Grand Gedeh counties.



**Cocoa**

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SMALLHOLDER TREE CORPS REVITALIZATION SUPPORT PROJECT (STCRSP)

**Coffee Revitalization:** rehabilitating, and extension of coffee farms (400 ha) in Bong, Nimba & Grand Gedeh counties.



**Coffee**

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SMALLHOLDER TREE CORPS REVITALIZATION SUPPORT PROJECT (STCRSP)

**Small-scale Oil Palm Revitalization:** revitalization of an oil palm plantation run by smallholders (in Grand Gedeh), including support to rehabilitation/replanting (600 ha), capacity building of the existing cooperative, and development of intermediate processing technologies; and promotion of an out growers scheme (400 ha) around a concessionaire in Grand Bassa County.



**Oil Palm**

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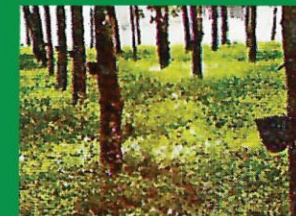
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SMALLHOLDER TREE CORPS REVITALIZATION SUPPORT PROJECT (STCRSP)

**Rubber Revitalization:** replanting and extension of rubber farms (800 ha) in Margibi and Montserrado Counties in partnership with two concessionaires and one large Liberian estate; rehabilitation of critical markets access roads in project areas.



**Rubber**



## MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE

SMALLHOLDER TREE CROPS REVITALIZATION SUPPORT PROJECT  
(STCRSP)  
Project Brief

### A. PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The Project was subjected to the World Bank's normal project cycle process I) Project proposal was approved by the Board on June 5, 2012; ii) Financing Agreement was signed on July 18, 2012; iii) the Act to ratify the Financing Agreement between the Republic of Liberia and IDA was approved by the Senate and House of Representatives on April 30, 2013; and iv) signed by the President on April 30, 2013.

The project development objective is "to increase access to finance inputs technologies and markets for smallholder tree crop farmers in Liberia and to develop a long term development program for the tree crops sector".

Total project costs are estimated at around US\$23.1 million equivalent, funded by an IDA credit of US\$15 million GOL finding of about US\$1.1 million, financial institutions contributions of farmers US\$ .800 million.

The project constitutes the first phase of a longer term tree crop development program, targeting smallholders. It will test different rehabilitation, replanting and new planting models and associated implementation and financing mechanisms for revitalizing the tree crop sector.

These models are implemented in partnerships with concessionaires/large farms, NGOs, Farmer Organizations (Fos) and financial institutions in six counties (Montserrado; Margibi; Bong; Nimba; Grand Gedeh; and Grand Bassa.). The project includes a strong learning component.

The project comprises of three components:

(1) Smallholder Tree Crops Revitalization USD17.6 million);

a) Cocoa/Coffee Revitalization: Rehabilitating replanting and extension of cocoa/ coffee farms (4,800 ha) in Bong, Nimba & Grand Gedeh counties; technical and management advise to smallholders and their farmer organizations (Fos ) quality program and market linkages: enhancing Fos to ada p t e l financial services; and development of small scale processing;

b) Small-Scale Oil Palm Revitalization: revitalization of an oil palm plantation run by smallholders (in Grand Gedeh ), including support to rehabilitation/replanting (1,000 ha), capacity building of the existing cooperative, and development of intermediate processing technologies; and promotion of an out growers scheme (600 ha) around a concessionaire in Grand Bassa County.

c) *Rubber Revitalization*: replanting and extension of rubber farms (800 ha) Margibi and Montserrado Counties in partnership with two concessionaires and one large Liberian estate; rehabilitation of critical markets access roads in project areas;

(ii) *Institutional Building and Preparation of the Long Term program* (USD 3.3 million): strengthening of MOA's technical services (the Programs Management Unit - at headquarters and County agricultural offices) and of the Cooperative Development Agency; elaboration of national strategies for FO development; of master plans for the targeted tree crops; securing land use rights of targeted smallholders; support to adaptive tree crops research; and preparation of the long term crop development program; and (iii) Project Coordination and Management (USD 2.2 million).

The component aims at ensuring an effective coordination, management and monitoring and evaluation (M&E) of the project. It comprises two subcomponents:

a) *Sub-Component Strategic Planning, Coordination, Management and Implementation*

Support, including two main activities: (a) Support to steering Bodies: project launching workshops at county and national level supporting regular coordination meetings at county level assembling all stakeholders; and support to the project Steering committee (PSC); and (b) Support to the Project Coordination Unit (PCU) attached to the MoA's PMU that will be in charge of the day-to-day project coordination; and

b) *Sub Component M&E and Knowledge Sharing*; This sub-component will support the establishment and implementation of the project's M&E system through annual participatory planning and evaluation workshops and thematic evaluations (including animal producer and value chain surveys) that will feed into the results framework and planing activities for the following year.

### B. THE ECONOMIC STRATEGIC FIT

The project fits into the Liberia Poverty Reduction Strategy (PRS) particularly its second pillar "economic revitalization", based on the promotion of export oriented economic growth, through consolidating the role pf the private section while also facilitating rural development, increasing rural incomes, and contributing to poverty reduction.

I) The project is fully in link with the current Country Assistance Strategy (CAS) of the International Development Association (World Bank) and would contribution to two out of its three pillars facilitating pro-poor growth and rehabilitating infrastructure to jump-start economic growth.

ii) The proposed project is also fully aligned with the 2010-2020 Liberia Agriculture Section Investment Program (LASIP) Developed BY GOL in 2008/2009 after extensive stakeholders Consultaton It would contribute to three of the four program of the LASIP and particularly to sub-programs 1.3 (Smallholder tree crop development), 2.1 (Rehabilitation and expansion of rural roads), 3.1 (Rebuilding the MOA and improved coordination & management), 3.4 (Capacity building of farm based organizations) and 3.5 (Revitalizing agriculture research).

### C. ECONOMIC BENEFITS

The project is expected to lead to tree crop production and value increases and would generate both direct and indirect economic benefits:

(I) Improved livelihoods and increased incomes of tree crop smallholders, and therefore improved food security at household level and reduction of vulnerability to external shocks, notably those related to climate change and rising food prices:

(ii) Reduced transaction costs-notably transport and credit costs-and post harvest losses through the rehabilitation of feeder roads and marketing enhancement;

(iii) Improved access to adapted financial services Farmer Organizations and their members increased value added of tree crop production, particularly cocoa, coffee and oil palm, through marketing and FO/cooperatives strengthening and the promotion of professional small and medium scale processing

(iv) Enhanced market/business opportunities and economies of scale benefitting actors of the supply chains (smallholders, transporters, marketers, agro-industries) under win-win arrangements and the promotion of public-private partnerships;

(v) Enhanced bargaining power, understanding of markets and management capacity of smallholders and their organizations;

(vi) Incremental on and off farm employment generated through the extension of area under tree crops and increased tree crop production;

(vii) Foreign exchange savings through increased national production and subsequent reduction of imports; and

(ix) Improved social stability in the project areas. The project would also have a positive impact on men and female headed households and vulnerable households in general.

Table 1: Estimated Direct Project beneficiaries

Crop	Number
Cocoa/coffee revitalization	
Targeted farmers/households	3,000
Section FOs supported	30
Clan FOs Supported	10
District coops supported	3
Oil Palm Revitalization	
Targeted farmers/household	400
Farmer's run plantation Block FOs	4
Farmer's run plantation Cooperative	1
Oil palm out growers FOs	
Rubber Revitalization	
Targeted farmers/households	400
Rubber FO/Coops supported	14
Total Targeted Direct Tree Crop Smallholders Beneficiary	3,800

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