



REPUBLIC OF LIBERIA
Ministry of Agriculture



ANNUAL REPORT **2025**



Reporting Period : January – December 31, 2025

**Transforming Agriculture for Food Security,
Employment, and Inclusive Economic Growth**

ARREST Agenda for Inclusive Development | Pillar 1: Agriculture

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Acronyms

MOA	-----	Ministry of Agriculture
NADP	-----	National Agriculture Development Plan
RETRAP	-----	Rural Transformation Agriculture Development Program
PMU	-----	Project Management Unit
PSC	-----	Project Steering Committee
NAF	-----	National Agriculture Fair
CDA	-----	Cooperative Development Agency
LACRA	-----	Agricultural Commodity Regulatory Authority
FDA	-----	Forestry Development Authority
NBA	-----	National Board of Concession
NaFAA	-----	National Fisheries Aqua-Culture Authority
NASS	-----	National Agriculture Statistics System
Goal	-----	Government of Liberia
AFDB	-----	Africa Development Bank
IFAD	-----	International Funds for Agriculture Development
ODA	-----	Official Development Assistance
ERPO	-----	Emergency Rice Production Offensive
ASFP	-----	Agriculture Sector Investment Plan
STAR - P	-----	Smallholder Agriculture Transformation and Agribusiness Project
TCEP	-----	Tree Crops Extension Project
BCRP	-----	Building Climate Resilience Project
PSIP	-----	Public Sector Investment Project
IDA	-----	International Development Association
WFP	-----	World Food Program
DPD	-----	Department of Planning and Development

NAP	National Adaptation Plan
PPD	Policy and Planning Division
OCOPC	One County One Priority Crops
MFDP	Ministry of Finance and Development Planning
AERC	Africa Ministerial Annual Economic Retreat Conference
M & E	Monitoring & Evaluation
FNS	Food & Nutrition Security
ACC	Agriculture Coordination Committee
CH	Cadre Harmonize
CARI	Central Agriculture Research Institute
SDCA	Seed Development and Certification Agency



Foreword

I am pleased to present the 2025 Annual Report of the Ministry of Agriculture, covering the period January to December 31, 2025. This report fulfills the Ministry's statutory obligation to account to the President of the Republic of Liberia and the Honorable National Legislature, while providing stakeholders with a transparent and results-oriented overview of the performance, achievements, and challenges of Liberia's agricultural sector. It demonstrates how public resources and development partner support were strategically deployed in alignment with the National Agriculture Development Plan (NADP) to advance productivity, value-chain development, resilience, and inclusive growth.

During the reporting period, the Ministry recorded coordinated progress toward agricultural transformation in line with the ARREST Agenda for Inclusive Development. Through strengthened policies, improved sector coordination, and effective project implementation, we advanced a significant agricultural investment portfolio, translating national priorities into tangible outcomes. More than 100,000 farmers benefited from extension and technical services, while over 53,000 beneficiaries, including a substantial proportion of women and youth, directly participated in food and nutrition security and climate-resilient interventions. Productivity gains across key value chains—rice, cocoa, cassava, vegetables, livestock, and fisheries—reflect the combined impact of improved inputs, mechanization, infrastructure, market access, and institutional strengthening.

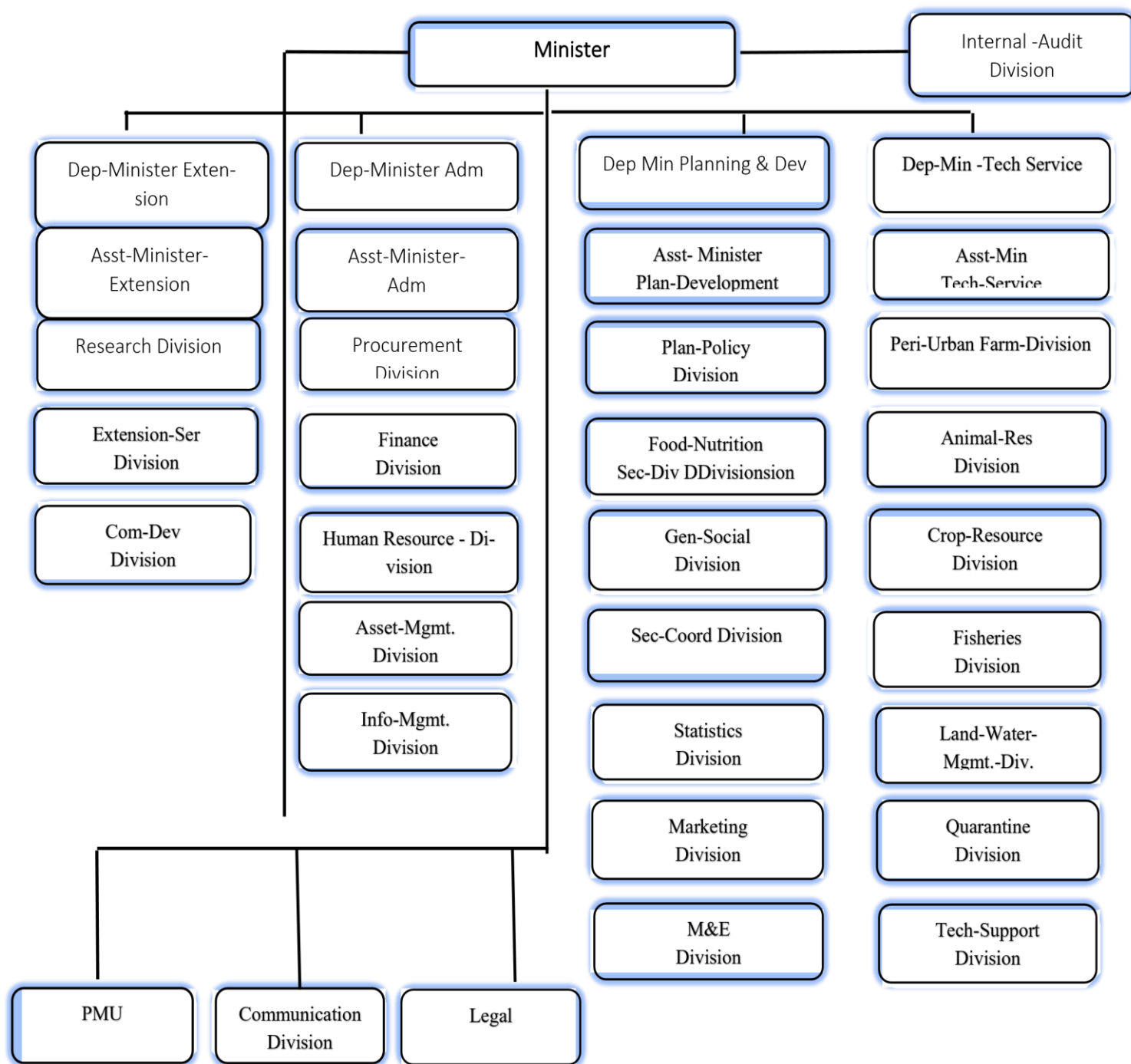
I commend our development partners, private sector actors, civil society organizations, and the dedicated staff of the Ministry of Agriculture for their continued collaboration and commitment. As we build on the gains recorded in 2025, the Ministry remains steadfast in its resolve to deepen reforms, scale successful interventions, and strengthen accountability systems to ensure agriculture continues to serve as a cornerstone of food security, employment creation, and sustainable economic growth in Liberia.

Hon. J. Alexander Nuetah Ph.D.

Minister of Agriculture

Republic of Liberia

Organization Chart Executive Summary



Established in May 1972, the Ministry of Agriculture (MOA) is responsible for guiding the development and management of Liberia's agri-food systems, encompassing crops, livestock, and fisheries. The Ministry carries out this mandate through coordinated planning, implementation, monitoring, and evaluation, supported by four core departments: Administration, Planning and Development, Regional Development, and Extension and Technical Services. Central to its mission are capacity strengthening for staff and producers, inclusive agribusiness development, expanded market access, and the economic empowerment of youth and women across smallholder, commercial, plantation, and fisheries sub-sectors.

In 2025, the Ministry of Agriculture delivered substantial progress under the National Agriculture Development Plan and the ARREST Agenda for Inclusive Development, particularly under Pillar 1, which positions agriculture as the foundation for food security, economic growth, and rural transformation. Agriculture continued to anchor Liberia's economy, contributing a significant share of GDP, while the sector increasingly transitioned from subsistence farming toward a more productive, market-oriented, and commercialization-focused system. Nationally, over 100,000 farmers were reached through extension and advisory services. At the same time, more than 57,000 direct beneficiaries were supported through government and donor-funded interventions, including major Public Sector Investment Program (PSIP) interventions that strengthened institutional systems, mechanization, infrastructure, and service delivery. Women represented over half of program participants, while youth accounted for approximately 30 percent, reinforcing inclusive growth objectives.

Through PSIP financing, the Ministry strengthened core agricultural infrastructure, institutional operations, and service delivery systems that supported national productivity growth. PSIP resources supported mechanization, procurement of agricultural equipment, institutional mobility, rehabilitation of strategic assets, extension services, and the implementation of priority government agriculture programs. PSIP interventions also reinforced the ministry's operational capacity through infrastructure improvements, procurement contracts, logistical support, and the alignment of public investment with national development priorities, complementing large-scale donor-financed interventions and strengthening government ownership of agricultural transformation.

Across all major value chains, productivity gains were significant. Rice remained central to national food security, with over 1,175 hectares under climate-resilient rice production, 1,960 hectares rehabilitated under STAR P, 1,486 hectares cultivated under ERPO, and more than 4,522 metric tons of rice produced under SADFONS alone. National rice yields increased substantially, reaching 3.05 metric tons per hectare, up from the initial target of 1.56 metric tons per hectare. To strengthen the rice sector, the Ministry installed 25 rice mills, distributed 60 power tillers, established irrigation and lowland rehabilitation systems, procured 55,000 branded rice bags, and expanded cooperative market integration, including institutional procurement through the World Food Programme school feeding initiative.

Lowland development expanded considerably, with 155 hectares targeted for rehabilitation in southeastern Liberia, of which 61 percent were already rehabilitated and productive. Additionally, An additional 1,300 hectares were identified and verified for development, including 1,000 hectares for lowland rice and 300 hectares for cassava. Major water management investments, including the completion of strategic agricultural dams such as Gbedin and Fagonda, further strengthened irrigation capacity, climate resilience, and sustainable production systems.

Feeder road rehabilitation and rural infrastructure development significantly improved agricultural commercialization and market access. The Ministry completed 166 kilometers of feeder roads, with an additional 253 kilometers under active rehabilitation. At the same time, broader infrastructure investments under RETRAP, PSIP, and related programs strengthened farm-to-market connectivity, reduced transportation costs, improved access to processing centers, and lowered postharvest losses. These investments enhanced competitiveness across rice, cocoa, cassava, and vegetable value chains while improving integration into national and regional markets.

Agricultural input distribution and mechanization reached unprecedented levels in 2025. Across multiple projects, large volumes of improved seeds, fertilizers, agrochemicals, and modern farming equipment were distributed, including NPK and Urea fertilizers, improved rice, maize, and vegetable seeds, cassava cuttings, and perennial crop seedlings. Mechanization was strengthened by expanding eight mechanization hubs and distributing tractors, mini combine harvesters, water pumps, and processing equipment to Farmer-Based Organizations and

cooperatives nationwide. PSIP further supported institutional procurement and strategic equipment deployment to improve operational efficiency and agricultural production. Seed systems were strengthened through foundation seed production, seed certification, and the deployment of climate-smart technologies.

Cassava production expanded significantly, with 23,869 metric tons produced nationally, supported by strong participation by women, who accounted for approximately 60 percent of producers. Cassava hubs, processing centers, mechanization support, and value addition interventions improved commercialization and food security. Maize production also expanded, with 50 hectares under STAR P support and improved maize seed distributed through ERPO, contributing to diversified food security systems.

Vegetable production achieved major gains, with over 11,477 metric tons produced and more than 162 hectares rehabilitated nationwide. Greenhouses, vegetable kiosks, seed distribution, hygiene training, and market integration strengthened the horticulture sector and supported nutrition outcomes and women's economic empowerment, with women accounting for nearly 60 percent of participants.

Cocoa, Liberia's flagship export crop, recorded some of the strongest gains in 2025. Nationally, 12,962 hectares of cocoa farms were rehabilitated or established, including 2,613 hectares added during the reporting year. Hybrid cocoa varieties increased yields by 16 percent, while the establishment of the National Cocoa Seed Garden and the distribution of 350,000 hybrid seeds laid a strong foundation for long-term productivity. Institutional strengthening included the formation of 928 farmer groups and the training of 1,768 lead farmers, while improved market systems increased farm gate prices by up to 300 percent in some producing regions.

Institutionally, the Ministry strengthened policy development, donor coordination, monitoring and evaluation systems, digital reporting platforms, food security early warning systems, and national agricultural statistics systems. Strategic policy frameworks such as the One County One Priority Crop initiative, youth-in-agriculture strategies, agribusiness development programs, and PSIP-backed operational reforms enhanced long-term sector governance, investment readiness, and implementation capacity.

Food security outcomes improved dramatically, with national food insecurity declining from 47 percent in 2022 to 21 percent in 2025. Cross-cutting investments in mechanization, infrastructure, extension services, PSIP institutional strengthening, climate resilience, women and youth empowerment, cooperative strengthening, and private-sector participation collectively positioned Liberia's agricultural sector on a stronger path toward self-sufficiency, reduced import dependence, and inclusive economic growth.

Overall, the Ministry of Agriculture's 2025 performance demonstrates that Liberia's agricultural sector is steadily transforming into a resilient, productive, and market-driven system capable of driving national food security, employment generation, export growth, and broad-based economic development. With investments from the government, PSIP, and development partners, the Ministry is building a stronger foundation for sustained agricultural modernization, rural prosperity, and long-term economic transformation. Continued investment in priority value chains, infrastructure, mechanization, and institutional reforms will be essential to sustain this momentum and fully realize Liberia's long-term agricultural transformation goals







The Introduction and Background sections are presented below.

The Ministry of Agriculture (MOA) of the Republic of Liberia leads the nation’s agricultural development by administering the nation’s agri-food systems—crops, livestock, and fisheries—through a well-staffed organization that plans, coordinates, implements, monitors, and evaluates programs. It emphasizes capacity building for both staff and farmers to overcome production constraints and to sustain productivity. The Ministry’s core responsibilities encompass smallholder and commercial agriculture, plantation crops, and livestock, with a mandate to foster inclusive agribusiness, improve market access, and empower youth and women. The ministry ensures essential services and an enabling environment for production and actively identifies constraints to develop sustainable solutions. It comprises four departments—Administration, Planning and Development, Regional Development, and Extension and Technical Services—each with dedicated units and divisions, all working in concert to advance Liberia’s agricultural development agenda.

1.2 Our Vision, Mission, and Operating Principles

1.2.1 Vision

We envision a self-sufficient, self-reliant, and sustainable agricultural sector by 2030, achieved through scalable mechanization, enhanced productivity, and resilient value chains.

1.2.2 Mission

By 2030, we will foster a dynamic, self-sufficient, and inclusive agricultural sector powered by widespread mechanization, empowered farmers and agripreneurs, and strong value chains to ensure sustainable food security and broad employment for Liberians.

1.2.3 OPERATING PRINCIPLE (EXCELLENCE, INTEGRITY, AND PROFESSIONALISM):

1.2.4. Commitment

We commit to delivering high service standards by continuously identifying opportunities for improvement and embedding performance management as a core organizational culture. We strive

to be an effective agent of agricultural transformation through a strong customer-service ethos that places farmers, service providers, and all stakeholders at the center of our work.

1.2.5. Diligence and Courtesy We shall be present at our workplace during official hours and devote ourselves wholly to our duties, treating all clients and colleagues with courtesy.

1.2.6. Integrity

We shall uphold high moral standards in delivering our services. We shall refrain from seeking, offering, or accepting favors or inducements, financial or otherwise, in the course of our duties. We shall not misuse public property or official time for private needs, nor use information obtained in the course of official duties to gain personal advantage.

1.2.7. Gender Equity

Given women's key role in production and marketing of agricultural products, we shall promote gender-sensitive practices and culture within our staff and the wider agricultural sector.

1.2.8. Partnership-Building

We will promote partnerships and participatory processes in policy formulation and program implementation. Active participation by stakeholders, especially the private sector and grassroots communities, will enhance ownership of programs and projects.

1.2.9 Accountability and Transparency

We shall be accountable and transparent to the Government and the people we serve.

1.2.10 Efficiency and Responsiveness

We will serve our clientele efficiently, ensuring all requests are addressed promptly.

1.3 Importance of the Agricultural Sector

Liberia faces reconstruction and development challenges after years of instability. With a population of about 5.4 million, a roughly equal gender distribution, and 64% of Liberians living in poverty, the per-capita GDP was approximately US\$132 in 2008 (World Bank). Since 2005, the economy has grown, and agriculture has played a vital role, contributing nearly 40% to GDP over the last five years. Historically, agriculture received less than 1% of the national budget, but since 2006, the Government of Liberia has increased funding, with private investment and international partners mobilizing support. The agricultural sector continues to receive increasing levels of investment from government funding, development partners, and the private sector. Agriculture remains a significant contributor to GDP and a key driver of food security and rural employment.

Alignment with regional, continental, and Global Goals

The Ministry of Agriculture promotes sustainable agricultural development by aligning its priorities with Liberia's national development agenda and the **2030 Sustainable Development Goals**, particularly **SDG 1 (No Poverty)**, **SDG 2 (Zero Hunger)**, and **SDG 8 (Decent Work and Economic Growth)**, with a strategic emphasis on mechanization and agribusiness-led productivity growth. These priorities are guided by the **National Agriculture Development Plan (NADP)** and the **ARREST Agenda for Inclusive Development**, and are consistent with regional and continental frameworks, including the **Kampala Declaration**, **ECOWAP**, **CORAF**, and **WAAPP**, which promote increased investment, climate resilience, reduced post-harvest losses, expanded regional trade, and inclusive transformation of the agricultural sector.

Through this approach, the agricultural sector contributes to broader development outcomes, including improved No Poverty (**SDG 1**) health and nutrition (**SDG 3**), skills development (**SDG 4**), gender equality (**SDG 5**), access to affordable and clean energy (**SDG 7**), innovation and infrastructure development (**SDG 9**), climate action (**SDG 13**), sustainable management of land and water resources (**SDGs 14 and 15**), strengthened institutions (**SDG 16**), and effective partnerships (**SDG 17**), thereby supporting Liberia's overall socio-economic development.

Department of Planning and Development

The **Department of Planning and Development (DPD)** is one of the Ministry of Agriculture's central technical departments. It plays a critical role in shaping the strategic direction of Liberia's agriculture sector. Its mandate includes policy formulation, strategic planning, sector coordination, monitoring and evaluation, data management, and the integration of cross-cutting issues such as gender, climate change, food and nutrition security.

In 2025, the DPD continued to guide the Ministry's work in alignment with national development priorities, including **Vision 2030**, the **National Adaptation Plan**, the **Nationally Determined Contributions (2025–2030)**, and the **National Agriculture Development Plan (NADP 2025–2030)**. These efforts supported Liberia's progress toward key global commitments, particularly **SDG 1 (No Poverty)**, **SDG 2 (Zero Hunger)**, **SDG 8 (Decent Work and Economic Growth)**, and **SDG 13 (Climate Action)**. Through coordinated planning, policy guidance, and evidence generation, the department helped improve food security, strengthen farmer livelihoods, promote resilience, and support broad-based economic growth.

Governance and Leadership

The Department of Planning and Development operates under clear governance arrangements. The Minister of Agriculture provides overall leadership and ensures that DPD's work aligns with the Ministry's strategic vision. The Deputy Minister for Planning and Development leads the department, sets priorities, and oversees implementation of the planning agenda. The Assistant Minister for Planning and Development provides operational leadership and serves as the link between strategic direction and the technical divisions, ensuring coordination and timely execution of deliverables.

Structure and Coordination

DPD is organized into seven functional divisions: Planning and Policy, Food and Nutrition Security, Gender and Social Affairs, Sector Coordination, Statistics, Marketing, and Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E). The Assistant Minister ensures effective collaboration across these divisions, reduces institutional silos, strengthens information-sharing, and promotes a coordinated approach to service delivery and program implementation.

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1. POLICY AND PLANNING DIVISION

The **Policy and Planning Division (PPD)** advanced Liberia's agriculture policy environment throughout 2025 by leading the development of strategic documents, strengthening sector alignment, and facilitating national and international engagements.

Key Policy Documents Developed or Submitted

During the reporting period, the Policy and Planning Division developed and submitted four key policy documents: the One County One Priority Crop (OCOPC) Policy; YARD: Youth in Agriculture for Rehabilitation and Development; GRILL: Green Roots Initiative for Liberian Lands; and SEED: Sustainable Employment and Empowerment through Development in Agriculture for Skills.

Strategic and Technical Contributions

In terms of strategic and technical contributions, the Division strengthened data systems and introduced improved tools for progress monitoring, coordinated donor engagements resulting in stronger harmonization of sector priorities, facilitated national-level dialogues, consultation meetings, and stakeholder platforms, mobilized resources to support ministry operations and donor-aligned projects, and led knowledge management initiatives supporting evidence-based planning and reporting.

National and International Engagements

On the national and international front, the Division coordinated agriculture sector inputs into national economic reviews led by MFDP and co-drafted the MFDP SDG Stock-Taking Exercise to ensure agriculture is reflected in national reporting. The Division also represented Liberia at the Africa Ministerial Annual Economic Retreat Conference (AERC) in Abidjan, focusing on competitive nutrition-sensitive trade, and at the High-Level Seminar on Chinese Modernization and African Development in Shaanxi, engaging on agricultural modernization, innovation, and SouthSouth cooperation.

2. MONITORING AND EVALUATION (M&E) DIVISION

The **M&E Division** ensures accountability, learning, and performance excellence across all agricultural programs and projects. It monitors results, evaluates outcomes, and supports decisionmakers with timely, reliable evidence.

Core Functions

The M&E Division carried out a broad range of monitoring and accountability functions during the reporting period. It designed and implemented project and sector M&E frameworks, conducted routine field monitoring, mid-year reviews, and annual sector performance assessments, defined and tracked performance indicators for planning and budgeting processes, led beneficiary perception surveys and produced evidence-driven management recommendations, ensured data is collected, analyzed, interpreted, and reported in line with national standards, and strengthened the Ministry's performance reporting systems, including digital data tools.

Through these functions, the division enhanced accountability, sector transparency, and evidencebased decision-making.

3. FOOD & NUTRITION SECURITY DIVISION

The **Food & Nutrition Security (FNS) Division** continued to lead critical functions that ensure food availability, dietary diversity, climate resilience, and nutrition-sensitive planning across Liberia.

Core Responsibilities

The Division's core responsibilities included producing crop forecasts, early market warning updates, and food security outlooks; leading policy development covering food aid guidelines, storage facility standards, and nutrition-sensitive legislation; supporting the activation and

coordination of sector groups, ACC meetings, and the Cadre Harmonize process; advancing climate-resilient agriculture across rice, vegetables, cocoa, and fish value chains; and providing comprehensive data for crisis preparedness and long-term food and nutrition planning.

Major Achievements in 2025

The Food and Nutrition Security Division engaged 53,670 beneficiaries, representing 77 percent of the 70,000 target, comprising 25,600 cocoa farmers, 7,720 rice farmers, 2,120 vegetable farmers, and 60 fish farmers, with youth accounting for 30 percent and women for 32 percent. The Division supported 2,613 hectares of cocoa farm establishment and rehabilitation and introduced hybrid cocoa seeds that resulted in a 16 percent yield increase, from 531 kg/ha to 618 kg/ha. It also supported 1,175 hectares of climate-resilient rice farming, including 896 hectares in 2025, installed 25 rice mills, and distributed 60 power tillers to reduce post-harvest losses and improve land preparation. Vegetable farmer support was advanced through the construction of two kiosks and capacity building on hygiene, packaging, and record keeping. The Division further strengthened the Early Warning System, finalized the Food and Nutrition Crisis Preparedness Plan, collaborated on the 2024 Agriculture Survey publication with LISGIS, initiated an impact assessment of the DutyFree Program with UNIDO support, and continued progress toward CAADP/Malabo 5th Biennial commitments.

4. SECTOR COORDINATION DIVISION

The **Sector Coordination Division** serves as the central platform for collaboration across the agriculture sector. It ensures alignment among the Ministry, development partners, civil society, private-sector actors, and other stakeholders.

Core Responsibilities

The Sector Coordination Division's core responsibilities encompass coordinating thematic working groups and technical committees, reducing duplication and promoting synergy among sector interventions, facilitating resource mobilization and supporting joint planning processes, and strengthening communication flows across institutions to improve sector governance.

Sector Coordination – Major Activities and Achievements

1. Agriculture Coordination Committee (ACC) Meetings

The two quarterly Agriculture Coordination Committee (ACC) meetings convened by the Division brought together over 150 participants drawn from private sector agribusinesses and agroprocessors, farmer organizations and producer associations, bilateral and multilateral development partners, and NGOs and civil society organizations.

These meetings served as a national platform for policy dialogue, information sharing, and coordination of interventions, enhancing coherence across agricultural programs and investments.

2. Establishment and Strengthening of Sub-Sector Working Groups

To improve sector-specific coordination and problem-solving, the Division organized key actors into functional sub-sector working groups covering the Liberia National Rice Federation, Cassava Sector, Oil Palm Sector, Rubber Sector, Coconut Sector, Cashew Producers, and Vegetable Sector. These working groups meet on scheduled days each week to discuss sector activities, emerging challenges, progress updates, and policy needs, thereby strengthening stakeholder ownership and sector-led solutions.

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3. Policy Development and Coordination

The Division coordinated and facilitated the preparation of four policy documents that strengthened the enabling environment for priority agricultural value chains, covering the Oil Palm Sector, Liberia National Rice Federation, Pig Producers, and Poultry Association.

These efforts contributed to clearer policy direction, improved sector governance, and enhanced engagement between government and organized producer groups.

4. Proposal and Concept Note Development

In support of evidence-based planning and resource mobilization, the Division developed a National Coconut Assessment proposal targeting five coastal counties to assess coconut farmers, producers, and buyers, as well as a comprehensive concept note designed to assess the impact of duty waiver beneficiaries on agricultural productivity and investment outcomes.

5. Sector Clearances and Duty Waiver Processing

During the period under review, the Division processed and delivered a range of sector clearances and approvals, including 76 Agribusiness Partnership Clearances, 45 NGO Sector Clearances, 5 Endorsement/Attestation Letters, and 27 Approved Duty Waivers. These services contributed to improved ease of doing business and strengthened public-private sector collaboration in agriculture.

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6. Training and Capacity Development

To strengthen institutional capacity and data-driven decision-making, the Division conducted three targeted training seminars covering data management training for Division staff, training in GIS/GPS-based farm data collection and coding, and training on office records management and filing systems. These capacity-building efforts enhanced staff competencies in data handling, spatial analysis, and administrative efficiency.

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5. STATISTICS DIVISION

The **Statistics Division** is responsible for generating the data that underpins evidence-based agricultural policy and planning. It ensures data quality, conducts sector analyses, and contributes to national statistical systems.

Major Activities and Achievements (2025)

During 2025, the Statistics Division supported the Cadre Harmonize (CH) Analysis for Liberia, contributed to the strengthening of the Early Warning Food and Nutrition System, supported the analysis and preparation for the publication of the National Agriculture Survey 2024, collated and submitted the CAADP Malabo 5th Biennial Report, participated in the planning of the LWEP Mixed Survey contributing gender-disaggregated indicators for policy use, and strengthened collaboration among national data producers including CDA, LACRA, FDA, NBC, and NaFAA under the National Agriculture Statistics System (NASS).

6. MARKETING DIVISION

The **Marketing Division** promotes Liberia's agricultural products, strengthens market linkages, supports value addition, and enhances farmer access to domestic and regional markets.

Key Achievements

During 2025, the Marketing Division facilitated new domestic and regional market linkages that improved farm-gate prices and supported value addition through packaging, branding, and processing improvements for five cooperatives and 100 farmers. The Division delivered extensive training on marketing, SPS standards, and export readiness, operationalized digital tools that broadened market access and improved information flow, and coordinated successful trade missions resulting in new contracts and investment opportunities. It trained 14 cooperatives and formalized a contract with Destiny Women Enterprise in Bentol, supported training and contract finalization with two cooperatives partnering with FALAMA in Bomi, conducted one-week farming training with cassava hubs in Grand Bassa, Bomi, and Montserrado, and facilitated contract farming training across three counties benefiting over 30 farmers. The Division also constructed two vegetable kiosks and trained sellers in hygiene, packaging, and record keeping, and participated in a four-day regional training in Sierra Leone on private sector financing.

7. GENDER UNIT

The **Gender Unit** leads the integration of gender equality across agricultural planning, programming, policymaking, and implementation. It ensures that women, youth, and vulnerable groups have equitable access to opportunities and resources in the agriculture sector.

Core Areas of Work

The Gender Unit's work spans several core areas. In the area of Policy Influence, it ensures gender considerations are embedded in laws, policies, strategies, and investment plans. Through Data and Analysis, it produces sex-disaggregated data to identify gaps and measure progress. Its Capacity Building function trains and mentors' women farmers, agripreneurs, and female extension agents. On Access to Resources, it works to expand women's access to inputs, credit, land, technologies, and market information. It advocates for Safe and Inclusive Environments by promoting genderresponsive working conditions and supporting efforts to address GBV risks in agriculture. Through Partnerships and Advocacy, it collaborates with civil society and development partners to promote gender equality in value chains. Its Monitoring and Accountability function tracks gender-responsive indicators and contributes findings for sector reporting.

Program Management Unit (PMU)

The **Program Management Unit (PMU)** is a central component of the Ministry of Agriculture’s ongoing institutional reform agenda. It was established to build and sustain long-term capacity in project management, procurement, and administration through practical, “learning-by-doing” approaches. The PMU plays a transitional yet strategic role by helping the Ministry modernize its internal systems, strengthen implementation performance, and consolidate national ownership of externally funded agricultural programs.

The Unit’s main role is to ensure that the Ministry can effectively manage development projects in line with Government of Liberia (GOL) policies, international fiduciary standards, and the requirements of development partners, including the African Development Bank (AfDB), the World Bank, IFAD, and other bilateral institutions. The PMU’s work supports the Ministry’s efforts to decentralize service delivery, strengthen resource management reforms, and coordinate the flow of Official Development Assistance (ODA) to maximize development impact.

The **Minister of Agriculture** retains overall oversight, while the **Deputy Minister for Planning and Development** provides day-to-day leadership and strategic direction. The **Program Steering Committee (PSC)** offers high-level advisory support and ensures alignment between donor investments, national priorities, and the Ministry’s development strategy.

Through its coordination, fiduciary oversight, and capacity-building roles, the PMU strengthens the Ministry’s ability to plan, execute, monitor, evaluate, and report on major development projects, enhancing efficiency, transparency, and sustainability across the sector.

SUCCESS STORY: Empowering a New Generation of Women Farmers — The Journey of Martha K. Doe

When Martha K. Doe, a 32-year-old single mother from Gbedin, Nimba County, first joined her local farmers’ cooperative, she cultivated less than a quarter of a hectare of upland rice using traditional tools. Unpredictable rainfall, low yields, and limited access to markets meant she often struggled to provide for her two children.

Everything changed in 2025 when Martha became a beneficiary of the Ministry of Agriculture’s climateresilient rice production and agribusiness support initiatives under the PMU-coordinated programs. Through the combined efforts of RETRAP, TCEP-II, and the climate-smart agriculture trainings delivered by the Ministry and its partners, she received improved seeds, training in land preparation, access to power tiller services, and post-harvest support.

Today, Martha manages 2.5 hectares of well-developed lowland rice fields—an expansion made possible through mechanization services and technical guidance provided by MoA extension officers and the demonstration sites in Nimba. With improved practices and the newly installed rice mill in the community, her yields more than tripled, enabling her not only to feed her household but also to become a regular supplier to local buyers participating in the WFP-supported school feeding program. Martha now employs three seasonal workers, participates in cooperative management committees, and mentors’ younger women farmers in her district.

“For the first time, I feel in control of my future,” Martha shared with pride. “The Ministry’s support did not just give me tools—it gave me confidence. I used to farm just to survive, but now I farm to grow, to earn, and to inspire other women. Agriculture is no longer a struggle for me; it is my strength.” Her journey reflects the transformative impact of coordinated agricultural investment—combining improved technology, market access, extension support, and inclusive programming. Martha’s story is now a model of resilience, empowerment, and the changing face of women in Liberia’s agriculture sector.

Projects Managed Through the PMU (2025)

In 2025, the PMU successfully coordinated a diverse portfolio of national and donor-funded projects, including the Emergency Rice Production Offensive (ERPO) financed by AfDB, the SADFONS Project funded by AfDB and GAFSP, RETRAP supported by the World Bank, STAR-P jointly financed by the World Bank, IFAD, and the Government of Liberia, TCEP-I and TCEP-II under IFAD, the Building Climate Resilience Project (BCRP) financed by IFAD, and the Public Sector Investment Program (PSIP) funded by the Government of Liberia.

These projects collectively supported value chain development, infrastructure rehabilitation, market access, mechanization, resilience building, and Farmer-Based Organization strengthening across Liberia.

RETRAP – Rural Economic Transformation Project

The Rural Economic Transformation Project (RETRAP) centers on five major components: Enabling Environment for Agribusiness Development; Competitiveness and Market Access, which focuses on strengthening buyer-producer linkages; Agri-Marketing and Road Infrastructure, including rehabilitation of 125 km of the Southeastern Corridor, cross-drainage structures, and modernization of selected agri-markets; Project Coordination and Contingency Response; and Food Security and Emergency Production Support, which scales resilience against future shocks.

RETRAP maintains a rigorous reporting structure, including monthly achievement briefs to the Minister, quarterly implementation progress reports, semi-annual reviews, and annual performance reports. These reports track progress, risks, implementation status, mitigation measures, and project impacts.

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STAR-P – Smallholder Agriculture Transformation and Agribusiness Revitalization Project

The STAR-P project, jointly financed by the World Bank (IDA), IFAD, and the Government of Liberia, aims to boost smallholder productivity, strengthen value chains across rice, cocoa, and oil palm, expand commercialization, reduce food imports, and improve market access and agribusiness competitiveness. The project operates nationwide with concentrated interventions in major food-producing counties such as Nimba, Lofa, and Bong.

The project operates nationwide with concentrated interventions in major food-producing counties such as Nimba, Lofa, and Bong. STAR-P achievements are monitored through indicators such as yield improvements, sales volumes, and gender-disaggregated beneficiary reporting.

STAR-P: Selected Photographic Evidence (2025)

Photographic evidence from STAR-P activities in 2025 documents the distribution of assorted vegetable seeds in Gbarpolu, fertilizer distribution in Lofa, fertilizer warehouse stock at PMU in Gardnersville and Nimba, a greenhouse established at Liberia Inland Christian College in Nimba, a newly constructed dam in Gbedin, Nimba, lowland swamp rehabilitation in Bong, an installed rice mill for the Bangadee Women Farmers in Lofa, and the national rollout of branded rice bags.

STAR-P – Key Performance Indicators (June 2025)

Indicator	Target	Achieved
Smallholder beneficiaries	38,000	44,389 (53% women)
Rice yield (mt/ha)	1.56	3.05

Oil Palm FFB yield (mt/ha)	1.44	11.20
Hot Pepper yield (mt/ha)	2.4	3.12
Annual rice sales (mt/farmer)	0.75	0.76
Annual oil palm sales (mt/farmer)	4.1	19.15
Annual horticulture sales (mt/farmer)	1.6	6.24

STAR-P – Major Activities and Achievements (2025) Market Linkages & Value Chain Strengthening

Under Market Linkages and Value Chain Strengthening, STAR-P facilitated coordination between WFP and cooperatives, including the submission of cooperative profiles for procurement under school feeding initiatives, and procured 55,000 branded rice bags ranging from 1 to 50 kg to support standardized packaging and marketing.

Productivity Enhancement

In the area of Productivity Enhancement, the project supported the rehabilitation of 1,960 ha of rice across multiple counties and 50 ha of maize production in Bong County. Significant agricultural inputs were procured and distributed, including 296,250 kg of NPK fertilizer, 192,500 kg of Urea, multiple varieties of improved seed rice including Jasmine, Ex-Baika, Suakoko 8, Nerica, and LAC 23, and 75 kg of vegetable seeds.

GIS Mapping & Digital Monitoring

Conducted spatial referencing and GIS mapping of beneficiaries under out grower Scaling-Up Activities.

Vegetable Production Support

Under Vegetable Production Support, STAR-P rehabilitated 162 ha for vegetable cultivation across all 15 counties and distributed improved vegetable seeds to meet the 150-ha seasonal target.

Oil Palm Rehabilitation

100 ha of smallholder oil palm farms rehabilitated in Nimba, Bong, Margibi, and Bomi.

Demonstration Sites & Knowledge Transfer Support to Cooperative Development Agency (CDA)

Provided operational support across 14 counties to strengthen field supervision and cooperative development.

LACF Matching Grants

Through the LACF Matching Grants mechanism, US\$907,721.01 was disbursed in Q1 2025, bringing total disbursement to US\$12,942,372.82, representing 94 percent of the total grant value.

Monitoring, Evaluation & Completion Activities

Monitoring, evaluation, and completion activities included the completion of a Citizen Satisfaction Survey achieving 90 percent satisfaction, a Value Chain Yields Survey, and submission of the IDA project completion report. Three radio dramas were also produced and aired in Montserrado, Nimba, and Lofa through the Communications for Development workstream.

Communications for Development

Produced and aired three radio dramas in Montserrado, Nimba, and Lofa.

SADFONS – Smallholder Agriculture Development for Food and Nutrition Security

SADFONS ACHIEVEMENTS

The Smallholder Agriculture Development for Food and Nutrition Security (SADFONS) Project continues to make substantial contributions toward improving food and nutrition security, strengthening agricultural value chains, and enhancing institutional capacity within Liberia's agricultural sector. The project focuses on three priority value chains—**rice, cassava, and vegetables**—while also supporting value addition, market linkages, seed systems development, extension services, and nutrition-sensitive agriculture.

Seed Systems and Research Support

Under Seed Systems and Research Support, the Central Agricultural Research Institute (CARI) produced 17 metric tons of foundation seed currently being multiplied into certified seeds by 12 Farmer-Based Organizations and cooperatives, which are being supported in transitioning to sustainable seed enterprises. The project equipped the CARI Seed Laboratory with modern equipment to improve seed testing, quality assurance, and viability analysis, and the National Standards Laboratory (NSL) was equipped to strengthen food safety, quality control, and standards enforcement.

Lowland Rehabilitation and Production Support

A total of 155 hectares of lowland were targeted for rehabilitation in the southeastern counties, with 61 percent already rehabilitated and under production, including grand gedeh county covering the zwedru, work and see lowlands (50 ha), river gee county covering the jarkaken lowland (25 ha) and flowroken lowland (50 ha), and maryland county covering the pleebo a and b lowland (30 ha). Furthermore, the project identified and verified an additional 1,300 hectares comprising 1,000 ha of lowland for rice and 300 ha of upland for cassava for future development.

Private Sector and SME Development

Under Private Sector and SME Development, four Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) received support in the form of modern storage facilities, each comprising a warehouse with dual compartments for raw material storage and a showroom and office for processed products. The project facilitated the disbursement of USD 313,874, representing 87 percent of the allocated grant funding, to six grantees to support agribusiness development and value addition. Twenty FBOs and cooperatives were provided with farm and labor-saving equipment, including power tillers, water pumps, tractors, mini combine harvesters, and cassava processing equipment.

Nutrition, Extension, and Capacity Building

In the area of Nutrition, Extension, and Capacity Building, the World Food Programme (WFP) provided hot meals to 75,000 students across 320 schools in five counties through the HomeGrown School Feeding Programme, linking local farmers to institutional markets. In collaboration with the Government and the project, FAO conducted refresher training for 17 extension staff, building on the earlier Master Trainers of Trainers program. These 17 master trainers subsequently trained 200 lead farmers, marking the commencement of Farmer Field School activities across project counties. The project delivered extensive technical assistance, training, and awareness campaigns to 57,294 beneficiaries comprising 29,052 females and 28,242 males, including FBOs, cooperatives, contractors, women group leaders, and schools, with training covering nutrition and hygiene, environmental and social safeguards, sustainable crop production, and climate-smart agriculture techniques.

Human Capital Development

The project sponsored five MOA staff for graduate studies abroad, four in Tanzania and one in India, in key disciplines including Seed Technology and Business, Agribusiness and Business Administration, Human Nutrition, Agricultural Education and Extension, and Supply Chain Management and Logistic

Input Distribution and Gender Inclusion

A total of 5,000 peri-urban farmers, of whom 60 percent were women, received garden tool kits across six project counties: Bomi, Grand Bassa, Montserrado, Grand Gedeh, River Gee, and Maryland. Initial harvest data showed strong female participation across all three value chains: rice production totaled 4,522 MT with women accounting for 61 percent of producers; cassava production reached 23,869 MT with women accounting for 60 percent; and vegetable production totaled 11,477 MT with women contributing 59.7 percent.

Production Results

Initial yield data captured in the project database during the second quarter of 2025 indicate strong performance across all three value chains. Detailed tables disaggregated by county, gender, youth participation, hectares cultivated, yield, and total production are provided in the annexes, including

Detailed production data disaggregated by county, gender, youth participation, hectares cultivated, yield, and total production are presented in the annexes, covering Table 1: National Summary of Paddy Rice Production; Table 2: National Summary of Vegetable Production; and Table 3: National Summary of Fresh Cassava Production in SADFONS Counties.

These results demonstrate the project's strong contribution to national food production, inclusive growth, gender empowerment, and the strengthening of Liberia's agricultural systems.

	Table 1: National Summary of Paddy Rice Production						
County	Male	Female	Total	Youth	HA	Yield	MT
Montserrado	200	239	439	182	279	2.993	835
Grand Bassa	58	104	162	59	72	3.054	219.9
Bomi	116	118	234	67	1137	2.578	2930.7
Grand Gedeh	216	193	409	95	111	2.820	313
River Gee	47	32	79	11	20	3.05	61
Maryland	111	159	270	94	53	3.069	162.64
Total	748	845	1593	508	1672	2.927	4522.24

	Table 2: National Summary of Vegetable Production					
County	Male	Female	Total	Youth	Ha	MT
Montserrado	281	370	651	248	669	755.97
Grand Bassa	131	343	474	178	690	1500.7
Bomi	144	135	279	87	1202	4552.7
Grand Gedeh	270	345	615	189	336	128.55
River Gee	210	362	572	109	872	447.93
Maryland	191	266	457	157	1476	4091.1
Grand Total	1227	1821	3048	968	5245	11477

	Table 3: National Summary of Fresh Cassava Production – SADFONS Counties						
County	Male	Female	Total	Youth	Ha	Yield	MT

Montserrado	330	453	783	221	820	16.289	13356.65
Grand Bassa	167	178	345	144	157	17.230	2705.18
Bomi	81	61	142	82	169	12.3469	2086.622
Grand Gedeh	158	144	302	135	142	16.5	2343
River Gee	57	107	164	88	112	17.000	1904
Maryland	77	103	180	91	85	17.336	1473.562
Total	870	1046	1916	761	1485	16.117	23869.01

Success Story on SADFONS Activities

Delivering the ARREST Agenda: How SADFONS Is Advancing Pillar 1 Through Inclusive Agricultural Growth

Under Pillar 1 of the ARREST Agenda—Agriculture as the foundation for inclusive development, the Government of Liberia, through the Ministry of Agriculture, is prioritizing food security, productivity, and farmer livelihoods. The Smallholder Agriculture Development for Food and Nutrition Security (SADFONS) Project demonstrates how this national commitment is translating into measurable impact at community level.

In Liberia’s southeastern counties, once-abandoned lowlands are being reclaimed for production. Through SADFONS, 155 hectares of lowland have been rehabilitated across Grand Gedeh, River Gee, and Maryland Counties, enabling smallholder farmers to shift from subsistence to surplus-oriented rice production. For farmers in Pleebo, Zwedru, and Flowroken, this has meant reliable water control, improved yields, and reduced vulnerability to climate shocks—core objectives of ARREST Pillar 1.

Equally central to Pillar 1 is the strengthening of national seed systems. With SADFONS support, the Central Agricultural Research Institute produced 17 metric tons of foundation seed, now being multiplied by 12 farmer organizations transitioning into certified seed enterprises. This investment improves farmers’ access to quality inputs while laying the foundation for a sustainable, private-sector-led seed industry.

SADFONS places women and youth at the center of agricultural transformation, in line with the ARREST Agenda’s inclusion mandate. Initial harvest data show women producing 61% of rice, 60% of cassava, and nearly 60% of vegetables across project counties. In peri-urban areas, 5,000 farmers—60% women— received tools to expand vegetable production, strengthen household nutrition, and increase market participation.

Beyond production, the project advances ARREST Pillar 1 by linking farmers to markets and nutrition outcomes. Through collaboration with the World Food Programme, locally produced food supplied 75,000 schoolchildren in 320 schools, creating stable demand for farmers while improving child nutrition and school attendance.

Institutional strengthening remains a key pillar outcome. SADFONS has trained extension staff, supported 200 lead farmers through Farmer Field Schools, upgraded seed and food safety laboratories, and invested in human capital by sponsoring MOA staff for graduate studies in agribusiness, nutrition, seed technology, and supply chain management. As Liberia moves forward with the development of 1,300 additional hectares, SADFONS stands as a practical demonstration of the ARREST Agenda in action—delivering increased production, inclusive participation, stronger institutions, and resilient food systems.

Emergency Rice Production Offensive (ERPO) Key Achievements (2025) Strengthening Production

Under Strengthening Production, ERPO supported 987 farmers across 11 counties, rehabilitated critical rice infrastructure including canals and bunds in 8 major counties, supported production across 6 crops comprising rice, cassava, maize, coconut, orange, and avocado, and cultivated 1,486 ha across value chains.

Delivery of Inputs

In terms of input delivery, ERPO distributed 35 MT of improved rice seed, 206.8 MT of NPK fertilizer, 135.9 MT of Urea, 12,250 bundles of cassava cuttings, 4 MT of improved maize seed, 25,000 coconut seedlings, 10,000 orange seedlings, and 10,000 avocado seedlings.

Institutional Strengthening

Under Institutional Strengthening, ERPO recruited District Agriculture Officers (DAOs), Subject Matter Specialists (SMSs), and County Agriculture Technicians (CATs), conducted capacitybuilding trainings, and procured a 32-seater bus for field mobility.

Food and Nutrition Security

ERPO's Food and Nutrition Security interventions contributed to a reduction in food insecurity from 47 percent in 2022 to 21 percent in 2025. The project also established an Early Warning System and conducted the national Cadre Harmonize analysis.

IFAD Projects: TCEP-I, TCEP-II, and BCRP From Isolation to Opportunity: How IFAD-Supported Investments Are Transforming Rural Livelihoods in Liberia

When **Madam Korto**, a cocoa farmer in rural Nimba County, first planted her cocoa trees more than a decade ago, poor roads, aging trees, and limited technical support meant that farming was more about survival than opportunity. “We produced cocoa,” she explains, “but we could not move it, and we could not earn from it.”

Today, her story reflects a broader transformation unfolding across Liberia’s agricultural landscape under the **IFAD-supported Tree Crops Extension Project (TCEP-I and II) and the Bundled Climate-Resilient Agriculture Project (BCRP)**—key contributors to the Government of Liberia’s **ARREST Agenda, Pillar 1: Agriculture**.

Reaching Farmers Where It Matters Most

In 2025 alone, IFAD-supported projects reached 8,870 new beneficiaries, expanding total coverage to 25,600 cocoa farmers, 7,720 rice farmers, 2,120 vegetable farmers, and 60 fish farmers, with women accounting for 32 percent of beneficiaries and youth representing 30 percent.

Importantly, **women accounted for 32 percent of beneficiaries**, while **youth represented 30 percent**, reinforcing the ARREST Agenda’s focus on inclusion, employment, and rural transformation.

Revitalizing Cocoa—Liberia’s Flagship Tree Crop



For cocoa farmers like Madam Korto, the impact is visible. Across the country, **12,962 hectares of cocoa farms have been rehabilitated or newly established**, including **2,613 hectares added in 2025 alone**. Through the adoption of **hybrid cocoa varieties**, farmers recorded **yield increases of up to 16 percent**, translating directly into higher incomes.

Knowledge transfer has been central to this success. The projects established **928 Farmer Field Schools (FFS)** and

Kuu

groups and trained **1,768 Lead Farmers**, ensuring that improved practices continue spreading within communities.

At the national level, the establishment of the **National Cocoa Seed Garden (NCSG)** marks a major milestone. With **19 hectares developed**, **14 improved cocoa clones**, and **350,000 hybrid seeds distributed in 2025**, Liberia now has a sustainable foundation for long-term cocoa productivity. Modern infrastructure—including solar-powered irrigation, automated weather monitoring, and grafting facilities—ensures resilience against climate shocks.

Boosting Food Security through Rice and Fish

Under the BCRP, farmers produced rice on **1,175 hectares using climate-resilient practices**, yielding **365 metric tons between 2024 and 2025**. The installation of **25 rice mills** and the distribution of **60 power tillers** reduced post-harvest losses and labor burdens, particularly for women.

Meanwhile, aquaculture farmers benefited from the construction and rehabilitation of **25 fishponds**, the distribution of **36,618 fingerlings**, and **16,917 kilograms of fish feed**, alongside training in pond management and feed formulation—diversifying diets and incomes.

Infrastructure That Unlocks Markets



prices.

Perhaps the most visible change has been improved access. With **166 kilometers of feeder roads completed** and **253 kilometers under rehabilitation**, travel time and transport costs dropped by **53 percent**. In Nimba County, cocoa farm-gate prices increased by **300 percent**, as farmers could finally reach buyers and negotiate fair

Strengthening Rural Finance and Cooperatives

Beyond production, the projects supported **18,158 rural inhabitants** through strengthened cooperatives and improved access to rural finance—enabling farmers to invest, save, and grow their enterprises.

Delivering Pillar 1 Results

Together, these results demonstrate how **strategic investment, farmer-centered extension, infrastructure, and market access** are translating the **ARREST Agenda Pillar 1** from policy into lived reality. For farmers like Madam Korto, agriculture is no longer just about coping—it is becoming a pathway to dignity, resilience, and prosperity.

Major Achievements across IFAD Projects (2025) Strong National Outreach 8,870 new beneficiaries in 2025

Cocoa Value Chain Transformation

Under the Cocoa Value Chain, 12,962 ha of cocoa farms were rehabilitated or established nationally, with 2,613 ha added during 2025 alone. The adoption of hybrid cocoa varieties increased yields by 16 percent, while 928 Kuu and Farmer Field School groups were established and 1,768 Lead Farmers were trained.

National Cocoa Seed Garden (NCSG)

The National Cocoa Seed Garden (NCSG) covers 19 ha and maintains 20,000 budded cocoa seedlings across 14 improved clones, with 350,000 hybrid cocoa seeds distributed in 2025. The garden is equipped with complete infrastructure including rain shelters, an automated weather station, solar irrigation wells, staff housing, grafting sheds and storage facilities, and a tractor with implements.

Rice Production

Climate-resilient rice production covered 1,175 ha in total, yielding 365 metric tons over the 2024/2025 period. Twenty-five rice mills were installed and 60 power tillers were distributed to reduce post-harvest losses and ease land preparation burdens.

Infrastructure Improvements

In the area of infrastructure, 166 km of feeder roads were completed in 2025, with an additional 253 km under active rehabilitation. These investments reduced travel time and transport costs by 53 percent and contributed to a 300 percent increase in cocoa farm-gate prices in Nimba County.

Aquaculture Support

Aquaculture support included the construction and rehabilitation of 25 fishponds, the distribution of 36,618 fingerlings, and the supply of 16,917 kg of fish feed, alongside farmer training in feed formulation, pond management, and production techniques.

Cooperative and Rural Finance Strengthening 18,158 rural inhabitants supported through improved rural finance access.

Department of Regional Development, Research and Extension (DRDRE)

Established in **1960**, the Department of Regional Development, Research, and Extension (DRDRE) is the Ministry of Agriculture's primary service delivery mechanism. It is structured to advance **ARREST Agenda Pillar 1**, which prioritizes **increased agricultural productivity, food security, farmer incomes, and inclusive participation**. The Department is responsible for delivering **Agricultural Extension and Advisory Services (AEAS)** nationwide, with a strong focus on smallholder farmers, women, and youth.

DRDRE is led by a **Deputy Minister**, working closely with the **Assistant Minister for Extension Services**, and operates through decentralized regional, county, and district structures that ensure services reach farmers where production occurs.

Strategic Alignment with ARREST Agenda Pillar 1

DRDRE'S STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES DIRECTLY SUPPORT PILLAR 1 INDICATORS IN THE FOLLOWING WAYS:

ARREST Pillar 1 Outcome Area	DRDRE Strategic Contribution
Increased food crop production	Extension support for rice, cassava, vegetables, roots, and tubers
Improved farmer productivity	Promotion of improved practices, seed varieties, and technologies
Inclusive participation	Gender-responsive and youth-inclusive extension delivery
Market-oriented agriculture	Value-chain focused advisory services.
Climate resilience	Climate-smart agriculture and sustainable land management
Strong institutions	Decentralized extension systems and research–farmer linkages

Pillar 1 Objective

Increase agricultural productivity, food and nutrition security, and farmer incomes through expanded, inclusive, and decentralized extension and advisory services.

Result 1: Expanded Farmer Reach through Agricultural Extension and Advisory Services (**AEAS**)

Indicator: Number of farmers receiving AEAS (sex- and county-disaggregated)

In 2025, DRDRE significantly expanded its reach to farmers across multiple value chains through its decentralized extension system. Based on county-level reports, **over 100,000 farmers nationwide received AEAS**, with strong participation from both men and women.

In 2025, DRDRE significantly expanded its reach to farmers across multiple value chains through its decentralized extension system, with over 100,000 farmers nationwide receiving Agricultural Extension and Advisory Services (AEAS). Bong County recorded the highest outreach, with 78,069 farmers (36,630 male and 41,439 female) receiving extension services. Montserrado County reached 5,388 farmers (2,829 male; 2,559 female), while Margibi County provided AEAS to 2,615 farmers with equal participation by men and women (1,179 each). Grand Bassa County supported 1,695 farmers (992 male; 703 female), River Gee County reached 2,745 farmers including 1,422 women, and Grand Gedeh County provided AEAS to 2,014 farmers with near gender parity (1,001 male; 1,013 female). Grand Cape Mount County reached 1,487 farmers of whom 757 were women, Bomi County supported 1,382 farmers, and Gbarpolu County reached 1,236 farmers. Lofa County recorded 1,507 farmers receiving AEAS, Rivercess County reached 2,014 farmers including 845 women, and Sinoe County provided services to 1,472 farmers with women representing the majority at 924 female beneficiaries.

These results demonstrate steady progress toward Pillar 1 targets on farmer coverage and inclusive access to advisory services, despite data gaps reported in Nimba, Grand Kru, and Maryland Counties.

Result 2: Increased Crop Production across Key Food and Cash Crop Value Chains

Indicator: Number of farmers supported in crop production and hectares cultivated

DRDRE provided technical backstopping to farmers engaged in **rice, cassava, vegetables, cocoa, oil palm, maize, plantain, and root and tuber crops**, contributing directly to increased food availability and income generation.

DRDRE provided technical backstopping across multiple value chains and counties. Rice production support reached tens of thousands of farmers nationwide; in Bong County alone,

27,930 rice farmers (10,732 male; 17,198 female) were supported, cultivating approximately 19,913 hectares. Cassava production recorded strong female participation, with Bong County supporting 10,830 cassava farmers and Montserrado County reaching 1,435 cassava farmers cultivating over

416 hectares. Vegetable production, critical for nutrition outcomes, engaged over 19,000 farmers in Bong County cultivating approximately 8,534 hectares, with women representing the majority. Tree crops including cocoa and oil palm showed strong engagement in Bong (11,079 farmers), Grand Gedeh (893 farmers), River Gee (778 farmers), and Lofa (814 farmers), supporting Pillar 1 income diversification indicators. Plantain, maize, eddoes, sweet potato, pineapple, banana, citrus, and other horticultural crops were also promoted across Gbarpolu, Grand Bassa, Margibi, Rivercess, and Sinoe Counties, improving dietary diversity and climate resilience.

Overall, crop-related interventions reached **tens of thousands of farmers nationwide**, with women comprising a significant share of beneficiaries in staple food and vegetable value chains.

Result 3: Improved Livestock Productivity and Household Income Diversification

Indicator: Number of farmers supported in livestock production (by type)

To support Pillar 1 objectives for livestock productivity and resilience, DRDRE expanded advisory services for small ruminants, poultry, piggery, and limited large-ruminant systems.

DRDRE's livestock advisory services covered small ruminants, poultry, piggery, and limited large-ruminant systems. Small ruminant production engaged over 1,500 farmers nationwide, with notable participation in Bong (756 farmers), Grand Gedeh (263 farmers), and River Gee (384 farmers). Poultry production reached over 4,000 farmers, including 4,276 farmers in Bong County alone, supporting household nutrition and quick income generation. Piggery production engaged over 3,500 farmers nationwide, with the highest numbers in Bong County (3,280 farmers) and Margibi County (209 farmers). Limited engagement in large ruminants was reported in a few counties, though documentation of animal numbers and sex remains inconsistent.

Livestock interventions were particularly important for **women and youth**, offering accessible entry points for income diversification under Pillar 1.

Result 4: Strengthened Gender Inclusion and Nutrition Sensitivity

Indicator: Proportion of women benefiting from extension services

Sex-disaggregated data indicate that **women accounted for nearly 50 percent or more of AEAS beneficiaries in many counties**, including Bong, Margibi, Grand Gedeh, River Gee, and Sinoe. High female participation was especially evident in **cassava, rice, vegetables, poultry**,

and small ruminant value chains, aligning with Pillar 1 commitments to gender equity and nutrition-sensitive agriculture.

Result 5: Improved Monitoring, Data Use, and Research Linkages

Indicator: Availability and use of standardized extension data

In 2025, DRDRE strengthened Pillar 1 performance monitoring by collecting county- and sexdisaggregated extension data from CACs and DAOs, using standardized reporting templates to track farmer reach and value chain engagement, feeding extension data into national ARREST Agenda reporting frameworks, and coordinating on-farm trials and demonstrations with CARI and other research partners to ensure farmer feedback informed national research priorities.

While data gaps persist in a few counties, the overall reporting system supports evidence-based planning and continuous improvement of Pillar 1 interventions.

Overall, through expanded AEAS delivery, increased crop and livestock productivity, strong female participation, and improved research coordination, DRDRE made measurable progress toward **ARREST** Agenda Pillar 1 outcomes. Continued investments in extension staffing, digital reporting tools, and county-level capacity will be essential to sustain and scale these results in subsequent years.

Department of Technical Services (DTS)

The Department of Technical Services (DTS) is a central technical pillar of the Ministry of Agriculture, directly supporting ARREST Agenda Pillar 1, which prioritizes increased agricultural productivity, food and nutrition security, climate resilience, farmer incomes, and sustainable value chains. DTS provides technical leadership, regulatory oversight, and quality assurance across crop, livestock, land and water, quarantine, and urban agriculture systems to ensure that agricultural technologies and practices are fit for Liberia’s agro-ecological conditions and scalable at the national level.

DTS is responsible for analyzing, validating, and packaging technical knowledge and disseminating approved technologies and standards through the Department of Regional Development, Research and Extension (DRDRE) for farmer-level adoption. The Department also provides technical oversight and policy guidance to key semi-autonomous institutions, including the Central Agricultural Research Institute (CARI) and the Bureau of National Fisheries (BNF), ensuring coherence with ARREST Pillar 1 targets and international standards.

Strategic Contribution to ARREST Pillar 1

DTS ADVANCES PILLAR 1 OUTCOMES THROUGH THE FOLLOWING PATHWAYS:

ARREST Pillar 1 Outcome Area	DTS Contribution
Increased crop and livestock productivity	Technology validation, improved breeds, seed systems, and pest/disease control
Food and nutritional security	Support to staple crops, livestock health, and urban/peri-urban production
Climate resilience and sustainability	Land, water, soil management, and climate-smart technologies
Biosecurity and trade facilitation	Quarantine, phytosanitary systems, and standards
Institutional capacity	Technical training, laboratories, and regulatory systems

Animal Resource Division

Pillar 1 Outcome: Improved Livestock Productivity, Animal Health, and Biosecurity

The Animal Resource Division leads national efforts to enhance livestock and poultry productivity, animal health, and biosecurity, contributing directly to ARREST Pillar 1 targets on food availability, farmer incomes, and resilience. Operating under One Health principles, the Division integrates animal, human, and environmental health and aligns national systems with FAO and WOA (OIE) standards.

Key Pillar 1–Aligned Achievements (2025)

Key Pillar 1-aligned achievements of the Animal Resource Division in 2025 include the strengthening of policy effectiveness and technology development for livestock systems aligned with national productivity goals; support for World Rabies Day campaigns reinforcing One Health collaboration with the Ministry of Health and partners; delivery of specialized training in Avian Influenza diagnostics and laboratory capacity strengthening; advancement of breed improvement and feed formulation initiatives to raise productivity and reduce production costs; collaboration with the World Bank to mobilize support for animal resource development under Pillar 1; national consultative meetings with County Livestock Officers, private veterinarians, partners, and communities to strengthen decentralized service delivery; updating of Liberia's Peste des Petits

Ruminants (PPR) Control and Eradication Framework in line with the FAO/WOAH Global Strategy; completion of epidemiological assessments to identify PPR risk zones; integration of Community Animal Health Workers (CAHWs) into national vaccination strategies to expand last-mile service delivery; and the establishment of an M&E framework to track vaccination coverage and disease surveillance outcomes.

Crop Resource Division

Pillar 1 Outcome: Increased Crop Productivity and Plant Health

The Crop Resource Division supports ARREST Pillar 1 by strengthening plant health, seed quality, pest and disease management, and crop system resilience.

Key Pillar 1–Aligned Achievements (2025)

Key Pillar 1-aligned achievements of the Crop Resource Division in 2025 include the operationalization of the Seed Development and Certification Agency (SDCA) to strengthen access to quality seeds and improve productivity; training and awareness campaigns conducted with FAO financial and technical support of USD 12,000 in caterpillar-affected areas to protect staple crops; the distribution of agro-chemicals, PPE, spraying equipment, and inputs to regional warehouses to enable rapid pest response; equipping of the Insect Laboratory at Fendall to strengthen diagnostic and surveillance capacity; training of four technicians in Benin on biological control and integrated pest management; and the deployment of trained technicians to affected communities to support farmers directly in outbreak response.

Land and Water Development Division

Pillar 1 Outcome: Climate-Resilient and Sustainable Agricultural Systems

The Land and Water Development Division contributes to Pillar 1 by promoting sustainable land management, soil health, irrigation development, and climate resilience, all of which are critical to long-term productivity.

Key Pillar 1–Aligned Achievements (2025)

The Land and Water Development Division facilitated the establishment of an IITA branch office in Liberia, strengthening national access to agricultural innovation and technical support, and supported the EU-funded Soils4Liberia Project, enhancing national soil data, land-use planning, and evidence-based agricultural investment.

National Quarantine and Environmental Services

Pillar 1 Outcome: Biosecurity, Trade Facilitation, and Food Safety

Quarantine Division – Key Achievements (2025)

The Quarantine Division completed Global Alliance for Trade Facilitation training on the ePhyto GeNS system for digital phytosanitary certification, participated in advanced online training with experts from France and Morocco leading to the operationalization of Liberia's ePhyto database system between August and November 2025, and strengthened Liberia's capacity to facilitate safe agricultural trade while protecting domestic production systems.

Urban and Peri-Urban Agriculture Division

Pillar 1 Outcome: Food Access, Nutrition, and Employment

The Urban and Peri-Urban Agriculture Division supports the objectives of Pillar 1 by promoting local food production, nutrition, and livelihood opportunities in densely populated areas. Focus areas include household gardening, small-scale vegetable production, efficient land and water use, and youth and women engagement.

In 2025, we undertook foundational planning and coordination to integrate urban agriculture into national food systems, with scaled implementation planned for subsequent years.

Human Capital Development Supporting Pillar 1

To strengthen long-term technical capacity, DTS supported advanced training for staff in Agricultural Systems Management, Plant Protection and Agrochemical Toxicology, and Agricultural Civil Engineering (Irrigation). These investments enhance national expertise in productivity, resilience, and infrastructure development.

These investments enhance national expertise in productivity, resilience, and infrastructure development.

Through its technical leadership across crops, livestock, land and water, biosecurity, and urban agriculture, the Department of Technical Services is a **key driver of ARREST Agenda Pillar 1 implementation**. By strengthening systems, safeguarding production, and enabling innovation, DTS ensures that agricultural growth in Liberia is productive, inclusive, and resilient.

Department of Administration

Overview and Strategic Role

The Department of Administration serves as the institutional backbone and support arm of the Ministry of Agriculture (MOA). It provides the administrative, financial, human resource, legal,

logistical, and systems support necessary for the effective planning, implementation, monitoring, and sustainability of agricultural programs and projects aimed at enhancing food and nutrition security in Liberia.

By ensuring sound governance, accountability, compliance, and operational efficiency, the Department of Administration enables technical and programmatic departments to focus on delivering results aligned with national priorities, including the ARREST Agenda and sectoral development objectives.

This report presents a consolidated overview of the Department's structure, mandate, key activities, achievements, challenges, and recommendations for the reporting period.

Leadership and Organizational Structure

The Department operates under the leadership of the Deputy Minister for Administration, supported by the Assistant Minister for Administration. Together, they provide strategic oversight, coordination, and policy direction to ensure efficient administrative service delivery across the Ministry.

The Department of Administration comprises eight divisions and units: Human Resources, Finance, Procurement, Internal Audit, Asset Management, Communication, Information Technology (IT), and Legal. Each division is headed by a Director or Unit Head who reports directly to the Deputy and Assistant Ministers for Administration, ensuring alignment, coordination, and accountability across administrative functions.

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Reporting Requirement

Under Government of Liberia regulations, all Ministries, Agencies, and Departments (MACs), including the Department of Administration, must submit annual reports to the national government. These reports provide a structured assessment of achievements and results, challenges and constraints, lessons learned, and policy and operational recommendations. The reporting process enables government leadership to evaluate institutional performance, address systemic gaps, and implement reforms that foster efficiency, transparency, and national development outcomes.

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Department of Administration

Scope of the Report: This report documents the core functions, activities, outputs, and outcomes of all divisions within the Department of Administration.

This report documents the core functions, activities, outputs, and outcomes of all divisions within the Department of Administration. It also highlights administrative support provided to MOA programs and projects, inter-agency and partner collaboration, innovations and systems improvements, capacity-building initiatives, and strategic recommendations for strengthening administrative effectiveness. The report is intended to support evidence-based decision-making by the Ministry's Senior Management Team and to demonstrate accountability to government authorities and development partners.

As the Ministry of Agriculture's support arm, the Department of Administration plays a critical role in advancing outcomes of agricultural transformation. The Department uses robust systems, disciplined governance, and dedicated service delivery to ensure that technical departments and programs operate efficiently, transparently, and sustainably, thereby achieving Liberia's food and nutrition security goals.

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Human Resources Division

Mandate and Functions

The Human Resources (HR) Division manages personnel administration and workforce development to ensure that the Ministry of Agriculture maintains a competent, motivated, and compliant workforce. Its core functions include:

- Recruitment, placement, and staffing updates
- Processing Personnel Action Notices (PANs)
- Pension and retirement documentation
- Social Security and group insurance administration
- Enforcement of the Civil Service Standing Orders
- Personnel advisory services and staff welfare support

Key Achievements

During the reporting period, the HR Division oversaw recruitment and placement through a structured process involving job advertisements, application screening, vetting, and submission to the Civil Service Agency (CSA) for validation and approval, and processed 16 Personnel Action Notices (PANs), with 10 approved upgrades, while 5 remain pending CSA approval and 1 was returned due to age eligibility issues.

Training and Capacity Development

Pension processing was managed for 53 employees, of whom 28 were successfully pensioned through NASSCORP while 17 pension cases remain under processing. No dismissals were recorded during the reporting period, reflecting improved staff management and compliance. Advisory actions included the issuance of 44 warning letters, processing of 275 annual leaves, management of 5 resignations, and the reintroduction of the Performance Management System (PMS) with a staff evaluation Metrix developed.

CSA Collaboration

The Division supported long-term training for 2 PhD candidates based in Botswana and Hawaii and 6 Master's degree candidates with some completed and others ongoing. Short-term training was also facilitated for 20 administrative staff in agricultural technology and management in China, and in-house capacity-building programs were continued to enhance staff effectiveness and productivity.

Key Contributions

The HR Division held five high-level coordination meetings with CSA on payroll adjustments, PANs, and pension matters, and received and acted upon CSA circulars related to personnel listing, manpower hearings, and budget planning.

Procurement Division

Mandate and Compliance Framework

The Procurement Division operates in full compliance with the Public Procurement and Concessions Commission (PPCC) regulations. It manages all procurement activities for goods and services and supports agricultural programs and institutional operations.

During the reporting period, the Procurement Division signed 52 contracts comprising 18 under GOL, 25 under PSIP, and 9 under ERPO. Capacity building was pursued through E-GP Training at PPCC locally, IFAD Procurement Training in Abidjan, IFAD SECAP Training in Kenema, and Livelihood Promotion through Self-Employment for Young GOL Employees. The Division maintained full compliance with PPCC regulations throughout the reporting period.

Achievements

The Procurement Division ensured transparency, competitiveness, and value for money in public procurement, strengthened compliance with procurement laws significantly reducing risks of fraud and mismanagement, and supported the timely acquisition of inputs, equipment, and services essential to MOA operations and project implementation.

Finance Division

The Finance Division is responsible for budgeting, financial planning, expenditure control, financial reporting, and compliance with national public financial management regulations. The division ensures that resources are utilized efficiently and aligned with approved work plans and budgets.

Internal Audit Unit

The Internal Audit Unit provides independent assurance on the adequacy and effectiveness of internal controls, risk management systems, and compliance mechanisms. It supports transparency, accountability, and continuous improvement across MOA operations.

Achievement

The division was involved in distributing farm inputs and agricultural materials to eight Counties. The division helped GAC during the audit of the ERPO Project and was involved in the World Bank audit.

Asset Management Division

Asset Coding and Inventory Management

Maintenance Section

The Asset Management Division maintains a comprehensive and up-to-date inventory of all fixed assets owned by the Ministry, including vehicles and motorcycles, office furniture, and ICT and electronic equipment.

Fixed Asset Section.

The Maintenance Section conducted a comprehensive assessment of electrical appliances across the Ministry in February of the reporting year, covering light bulbs, rice cookers, toasters, freezers, microwaves, fans, televisions, and air conditioning units, and determined that the Ministry currently has 309 electrical appliances. The Section also coordinated the repair and restoration of malfunctioning air conditioning systems in seven offices, thereby improving the working environment and operational efficiency of staff.

Transport Section

The Fixed Asset Section conducted comprehensive assessments in seven counties covering Nimba, Lofa, Margibi, Montserrado, Gbarpolu, and Grand Cape Mount, encompassing land, county offices, warehouses, and other fixed assets. Three asset verification exercises were conducted during the year, resulting in the successful update of the Ministry's asset registry. The Section took delivery of a 100 KVA generator purchased by the administration and distributed several all-in-one desktop computers, laptops, printers, and photocopiers to Ministry staff to improve operational efficiency and productivity. It collaborated with the GSA team to dispose of 113 assorted items including ICT equipment, office furniture, and electrical appliances in line with asset disposal procedures, conducted an assessment of 101 warehouses in Bong County that were perpetually closed, received assorted agro-equipment from WFP and transferred the items to the CARI 101 Building for storage and coordination, and distributed 170 pieces of raincoats and rain boots to drivers and extension staff to support field operations during the rainy season.

The division tracks asset conditions, location, custodianship, and utilization, strengthening accountability and safeguarding public property.

During the period under review, the Transport Section distributed 10 vehicles and 52 motorbikes to DAOs, CACs, and RACs to enhance mobility and improve service delivery within their assigned areas. In collaboration with the GSA team, 34 vehicles were disposed of in compliance with established GSA standards and procedures. The Section received 10 vehicles and three motorbikes from donor partners, as well as one Toyota Land Cruiser pickup from the SADFONS Project, JICA, and the FSNR Project. A three-day driver training program sponsored and coordinated by Road Safety Action International was facilitated to strengthen road safety awareness and professional driving skills, and an in-house capacity-building training was conducted for drivers on the proper handling of movement logs, fuel calculations, and core driver responsibilities. A 32-seater bus was taken into delivery to support employee transportation and improve staff mobility.

Legal Division

Achievements

The Legal Division provides comprehensive legal advisory services including drafting and reviewing contracts, MOUs, and agreements; advising on procurement, labor, land, and regulatory

issues; supporting dispute resolution and litigation management; developing governance frameworks and SOPs; and conducting legal risk assessments and staff sensitization. The Division ensures that all MOA actions comply with applicable laws and protect the Ministry's interests.

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Information Technology (IT) Division

The Ministry of Agriculture's ICT Department plays a central role in driving digital transformation across Liberia's agriculture sector. In alignment with the **ARREST Agenda**, the **National Agriculture Development Plan (NADP)**, and the MoA's institutional modernization agenda, FY2026 ICT priorities focus on building robust digital systems, strengthening information flows, digitizing service delivery, enhancing agro-data management, and supporting evidence-based decision-making.

This plan outlines **strategic ICT interventions**, expected outputs, responsible actors, timelines, performance indicators, and resource budgets.

Achievements

MOA ICT Policy Framework – Updated; Created MOA electronic Newsletter Platform; Replaced all DAMAGED Cables and Routers; Upgraded MOA Human Resource Management System (HRMS) for data consistency

Conclusion

The 2025 Annual Report of the Ministry of Agriculture reflects a year of substantial and measurable progress across Liberia's agricultural sector. Guided by the National Agriculture Development Plan (NADP) and the ARREST Agenda for Inclusive Development, the Ministry successfully translated national priorities into concrete outcomes that improved food security, expanded farmer livelihoods, and strengthened the institutional foundations of the sector.

Over the course of the reporting period, the Ministry demonstrated strong performance across all four of its core departments. The Department of Planning and Development advanced the sector's policy and strategic frameworks, strengthening evidence-based planning, donor coordination, and food security systems. The Program Management Unit ensured effective oversight of a diverse and

high-value portfolio of national and donor-funded projects, including RETRAP, STAR-P, SADFONS, ERPO, TCEP-I, TCEP-II, the Building Climate Resilience Project, and the Public Sector Investment Program. The Department of Regional Development, Research and Extension significantly expanded its reach, delivering Agricultural Extension and Advisory Services to over 100,000 farmers across Liberia, with strong participation from women and youth. The Department of Technical Services strengthened national systems in crop production, livestock health, biosecurity, land and water management, and urban agriculture. The Department of Administration maintained the institutional infrastructure necessary for the Ministry to function with efficiency, accountability, and compliance.

Key achievements recorded in 2025 underscore the breadth and depth of the Ministry's work. National rice yields rose to 3.05 metric tons per hectare, far exceeding the initial target of 1.56 metric tons. Cassava production reached 23,869 metric tons, vegetable output surpassed 11,477 metric tons, and cocoa farms covering 12,962 hectares were rehabilitated or newly established. Feeder road construction and rehabilitation improved market access across major agricultural counties, while the installation of rice mills, the distribution of power tillers and tractors, and the expansion of mechanization hubs reduced post-harvest losses and lowered the burden on smallholder farmers. More than 57,000 direct beneficiaries participated in food security and climateresilient agriculture interventions, and national food insecurity declined significantly, from 47 percent in 2022 to 21 percent in 2025.

Inclusion remained a defining feature of the Ministry's work in 2025. Women accounted for more than half of program participants across most value chains, and youth represented approximately 30 percent of direct beneficiaries. Gender-responsive extension services, targeted input distribution, access to rural finance, and cooperative strengthening collectively contributed to a more equitable and resilient agricultural sector. The Ministry's commitment to leaving no one behind is reflected not only in its programmatic outcomes, but also in the systemic efforts made to embed gender equity and youth engagement into its institutional structures and policies.

The Ministry equally recognises the challenges that remain. Data gaps in certain counties, inconsistencies in livestock documentation, and the need for further investment in digital reporting and county-level staffing continue to limit the completeness of sector monitoring. Sustained progress will require deepened collaboration with development partners, continued reforms in

public financial management, and greater private-sector participation in agricultural value chains. Addressing these gaps will be essential to consolidating the gains achieved in 2025 and to meeting the ambitious targets set out in the National Agriculture Development Plan for the years ahead.

In conclusion, the Ministry of Agriculture's 2025 Annual Report presents compelling evidence that Liberia's agricultural sector is on a credible and accelerating path toward transformation. The results recorded this year demonstrate that with strategic investment, strong institutional coordination, and a genuine commitment to inclusivity, agriculture can serve as the engine of national development. The Ministry remains resolute in its mission to build a self-sufficient, productive, and resilient agricultural sector that delivers food security, generates employment, and drives sustainable economic growth for all Liberians.