



2012 SECTOR FOCUS

Education

EDUCATION POLICY REFORM SUPPORT – USAID is working in support of policy reforms that set new directions for education in Liberia, and in 2011 a new Education Reform Act was signed into law by President Johnson Sirleaf. USAID, through its Liberia Teacher Training Program (LTTP), is also supporting Ministry of Education (MOE) efforts to decentralize operations through assistance in preparing administrative regulations and policy guidelines, developing a new management structure, establishing a monitoring and evaluation framework and installing a comprehensive education management information system (EMIS) to ensure timely data for decision making.

TEACHER EDUCATION SYSTEM DEVELOPMENT AND SUPPORT – Through LTTP, USAID is assisting the MOE to develop a teacher professional development system, through revision of national professional development and certification standards, development of a teacher career ladder and approaches for improved teacher recruitment, training and deployment. USAID is also assisting the MOE in efforts to normalize the payroll and combat corruption through the installation of a national teacher biometric identification card system linked to the payroll and EMIS. The program supports MOE efforts to implement the pre-service primary level certification teacher training program; strengthen the Rural Teacher Training Institutes; and through school-based teacher training implement Liberia's national plan to ensure all children are reading by the end of Grade 3.

SUPPORT TO YOUTH – The Advancing Youth Project is working to enhance the capacity of the MOE and non-governmental organizations to provide increased access to alternative basic education, social opportunities and leadership development and sustainable livelihoods pathways for out-of-school Liberian youth. The support ensures the MOE and organizations will be able to provide youth with little or no previous schooling with the educational and work-readiness skills and training necessary to succeed.

HIGHER EDUCATION SUPPORT – The Excellence in Higher Education for Liberian Development (EHELD) project is partnered with the University of Liberia and Cuttington University to build Centers of Excellence to expand access to, improve the quality of, and enhance the relevance of higher education programs in engineering and agriculture, fields that are critical to address Liberia's development challenges.

The Center for Excellence in Health and Life Sciences project manages the implementation of program objectives of the Africa-U.S. Higher Education Initiative partnership between Indiana University and the University of Liberia (UL). The project focuses on increasing UL's teaching and learning resources for medicine, nursing, midwifery, life sciences and public health through the creation of a new two-year, undergraduate Core Health and Life Science undergraduate program, as well as improvements in quality of instruction through faculty and staff strengthening, curriculum development, and upgrades in instructional resources.

GIRLS EDUCATION PROGRAM SUPPORT – Through the Girls' Opportunities to Access Learning (GOAL) program, funded by the Millennium Challenge Corporation's Threshold Grant to Liberia, USAID is working to increase girls' enrollment, attendance and retention in primary schools in Lofa, Bong, and Grand Bassa counties. Results of research undertaken during the project will provide an evidence base to determine which intervention(s) result in the greatest change in key outcomes, and will assist Liberia in addressing policy areas for improvement to close the gender gap in primary schooling.