



Rehabilitation of the Capitol Building

Building History

- **Built and dedicated on January 3, 1956**
- **Originally housed 5 counties and 3 provinces**
- **1964 – 4 new counties introduced to legislature, and the building was expanded in 1974 to accommodate the new additions.**
- **USAID/LCIP rehabilitation began November 2006**
- **Completed November 2007**



- **Architectural design: Milton & Richards, Inc.**
- **Construction firm: Sawyer & Associates**
- **Total cost of rehabilitation: \$2.1 Million**

The Capitol Building Rehabilitation project was one of the many LCIP projects which contribute to the President's 150 day deliverables. The rehabilitation began in November 2006, cost \$2.1 million and was completed and dedicated 12 months later. The Capitol Building experienced heavy looting during the fighting and the building was left almost completely dysfunctional. Although the structural integrity of the building was not damaged, gun shot holes were prevalent on the exterior.

The massive rehabilitation of this 4-storey 120,000 square foot building included repairs to the main roof and complete re-roofing of the banquet hall, construction of 50 additional offices for the Senate and House of Representatives, installation of air-conditioning units, rehabilitation of bathrooms, installation of new toilet blocks, ceilings, walls, carpet, doors and windows, construction of new canopy, car park, generator house, and repairs of the electrical, plumbing and water system. Rehabilitation also included repairs and furnishing of the House, Senate and Joint Chambers of the Capitol as well as exterior and interior painting. The building was redesigned to accommodate 64 House of Representatives, 30 Senators, for a total of 500 staff in total.

The main entrance hall provides security and administration functions. It consists of a main hall, support offices, and sanitation facilities. The rotunda is a three story structure and is capped by a 50 foot dome. The ground and second floors serve as a hall for public events. The top floor houses the joint session of Congress.

The building houses the Vice President of Liberia and Liberia's 30 senators and 64 representatives, from 15 counties, and all major legislation is discussed and passed in the building. Each county has 2 representatives in the Senate, the upper chamber. The Vice-President is the President of the Senate the President Pro Tempore leads the day-to-day business of the Senate. The House of Representatives is the lower chamber, with 64 total seats, which are distributed among Liberia's fifteen counties based on its total number of registered voters. Each county is guaranteed by law to have at least two seats.