

## AIFO: Coordinated Action on Disability in Liberia (CAD-L) Inception Phase

	<b>Implementing partner(s)</b>	Associazione Italiana Amici di Raoul Follereau (AIFO)
	<b>Location</b>	Monrovia; Bong and Nimba counties
	<b>Agreement period</b>	01 January 2020 - 31 December 2020 (Inception phase)
	<b>Budget total (Sweden)</b>	3 200 000 SEK

### Overview and objectives

The overall aim of the Coordinated Action on Disability in Liberia (CAD-L) programme is that **“people living with a disability in Liberia enjoy opportunities for employment, self-employment and entrepreneurship in the public and private sectors”**. The programme is currently funded for a one-year inception phase, prior to a possible longer-term programme. This inception phase seeks to:

- Collect **baseline data** and identify key indicators for the measurement of programmatic results for the CAD-L programme;
- **Pilot test approaches** for the economic empowerment of persons with disabilities in Liberia; and
- Revise the **programmatic document** for Coordinated Action on Disability in Liberia (CAD-L).



Figure 1: AIFO logo

Persons with disabilities (PwD) are among the most discriminated and marginalised populations in Liberia. Data on persons with disabilities (demographics and economic participation) is limited. Local Disabled People’s Organisations (DPOs) estimate that 99% of persons with disabilities live in extreme poverty, mainly due to exclusion from education, skills training, work and income generation opportunities.

This programme targets economic empowerment of persons with disabilities (PwD) during the inception phase as a human right itself and as a mean to attain other rights. This includes providing training and employment opportunities for PwD, as well as effecting attitudinal change across society.

### Activities

Examples of activities conducted under the inception phase of the CAD-L programme include:

- **Awareness of employment and work rights:** The programme will support Disabled Persons Organisations (DPOs) to run radio and video programmes on employment and work rights for PwD.
- **Strategic alliance:** Partnerships will be established between civil society organisations (CSOs) and duty bearers to monitor and report barriers faced by PwD to employment and self-employment, and the institutional capacity of CSOs strengthened to support PwD.
- **Employment opportunities:** A fund will be established to support entrepreneurship by persons with disabilities. Technical and Vocational Education and Training Centers will be assessed for accessibility and made more accessible (e.g. through technology) for persons with disabilities.

In the inception phase, the programme will also gather baseline data on demographics, employment and self-employment of PwD, and public perception of PwD and their role in economic contribution, and will develop a four year programmatic document for continuation of CAD-L activity following the inception phase.