

## UNDP/FAO: Community-based Forestry & Protected Areas Management

	<b>Implementing partner(s)</b>	UNDP and FAO
	<b>Location</b>	Gbarpolu, Grand Cape Mount, Lofa, Grand Gedeh, River Gee, Sinoe and Rivercess counties
	<b>Agreement period</b>	July 2022 – December 2026
	<b>Budget total (Sweden)</b>	78 000 000 SEK

### Overview and objectives

The program is developed as part of the Team Europe Initiative (TEI) which, combines forces between the EU Delegation in Liberia (EUD-LR) and EU Member States (MS) active in the forestry and biodiversity sectors in Liberia (Ireland, France, Germany, Sweden). This joint program, implemented by UNDP and FAO, is aimed at strengthening management of community forests and protected areas in Liberia through improved governance of community forest management bodies, capacity building of forest regulatory institutions, and promotion of sustainable livelihood incentives for forest dependent communities. The project will promote social equity by supporting women-led initiatives and enhance women participation in decision-making and land-use activities.

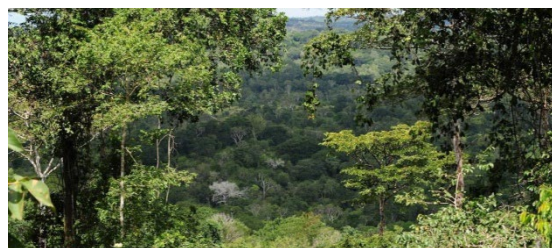


Figure 1: Photo of forest. Photo credit: Forestry Development Authority

The program is designed to contribute to the following four outcome areas:

- Strengthened institutional and community capacity, and regulatory framework for community forest management.
- Improved the habitat and status of key species, using participatory forest management and biodiversity conservation approaches.
- Supporting sustainable livelihood options for forest fringe communities to strengthen their capacities to become less forest dependent and more climate resilient.
- Facilitating the establishment and strengthening of a knowledge management system that supports gender-balanced community forest management and co-management of protected areas by communities.

### Activities

Key activities planned to achieve results include: supporting the establishment and management of 10 to 16 designated community forests in the project counties; training for forest fringe communities to develop and implement their management plans; revising legal and policy framework to support community forest management develop and implement reforestation and land restoration; establishing community eco-guards to promote local stewardship for protection of protected areas; develop and roll out diversified and climate resilient livelihood support options for forest communities; public private partnership to support biodiversity conservation; capacity development programs for women and youths engaged in value addition and processing of non-timber forest products, including establishing market linkages for forest and tree products, etc.