

## Liberia Decentralization Support Project (LDSP)

	<b>Implementing partner(s)</b>	United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)
	<b>Location</b>	Nationwide
	<b>Agreement period</b>	17 November 2015 – 31 December 2019
	<b>Budget total (Sweden)</b>	45 000 000 SEK

### Overview and objectives

The Liberia Decentralization Support Project (LDSP) was Government of Liberia Program designed to support and facilitate the implementation of the National Policy on Decentralization and Local Governance (NPDLG). The key objective of the LDSP was to roll out the decentralization of administrative, political and fiscal governance in Liberia and identify the alignment of the decentralization process to other on-going reforms such as the Peace-building and Reconciliation process, Public Sector Reforms Agenda, Civil Service Reforms (CSR) and those programs of the national development strategy. The strategy for the implementation of decentralization in Liberia has been guided by the National Policy on Decentralization and Local Governance (NPDLG). The strategy for the past four years was to pursue the process of constitutional amendment while simultaneously establishing conditions for a successful de-concentration of public services as the first stage of the process of decentralization. To that effect, a major milestone achievement in December 2017, when all the fifteen County Service Centers had been officially inaugurated throughout the country. Subsequently, in September 2018, the Local Government Act (LGA) became law, and is also currently the legal basis that guides continued efforts of decentralization reform. In 2019 a ten-year operational strategic plan for implementation of the LGA was launched also with support of partners.



*Figure 1: The picture shows the opening ceremony for the Country Service Center in Fish Town in River Gee county, participants included the Minister of Internal Affairs, the UN Resident Coordinator and diplomatic missions including Sweden, USA and EU. (December 2017)*

Objectives of the intervention:

- Deconcentrated functions and corresponding resources managed at the assigned level of government implemented;
- Service delivery and accountability of local governments is improved;
- Legal and regulatory framework for decentralization is in place;
- MIA is capacitated to lead and implement decentralization reforms.

### Key results

- Establishment of County Service Centers (CSC)s;
- The passing of the Local Government Act (LGA);
- Creation of public awareness about the decentralization policy and processes;
- Provision of services through the CSC's for the population throughout Liberia;
- Increase in revenue generation through the CSCs;
- Institutional and human capacity strengthening.