

Forum Civ II: Our Land

	Implementing partner(s)	Forum Civ
	Location	Bomi, Bong, and Grand Gedeh counties
	Agreement period	December 2021 – December 2025
	Budget total (Sweden)	50 700 000 SEK

Overview and objectives

The Embassy has identified just access to land as a key dimension in preventing conflict and building sustainable and peaceful communities, especially regarding women and youth. It is also prioritised to support the strengthening of national and community based CSO's since they are identified as a major contributor to social cohesion. The programme focuses on women and youth, which are identified as potential and prioritised change agents in the Liberia strategy and has a significant dimension on environmental security and impact. The programme is likely to contribute to increased access to land for women and youth and strengthen civil society in Liberia with a long view to increased social cohesion and conflict prevention in Liberia. The main objective of the programme is to ensure that women and youth from rural communities in Bomi, Bong, and Grand Gedeh counties effectively participate in land governance and management, and access ownership and control of their land for sustainable development and resilience to climate change.”



Figure 1: Cutting the Ribbon: H.E Ambassador Ingrid Wetterqvist cuts the ribbon during official opening of the Forum Civ Country Office in Gbarnga. Photo Credit: Forum Civ

Expected outcomes of this programme include:

- 1) improving capacity of Forum Civ's office and partners,
- 2) increased awareness on land governance,
- 3) target groups developing their own strategies for access and ownership and land, and
- 4) dialogue and partnerships between civil society and other actors.

Activities

The programme will decrease the number of CSO's supported from the previous programme, to offer more comprehensive support, and are using the Forum Civ methodology called "Right(s) Way Forward" in their engagement with local CSOs. Besides support to community-based civil society, Forum Civ is planning to connect and engage the CSO's with existing networks and coalitions on land rights.

In addition to the capacity building that Forum Civ will tailor for each partner, they are also distributing 1) 12 140 685 SEK in direct grants to 15 partners, and 2) 723 540 SEK as grants for training women to become licenced land surveyors at the Forestry Training Institute. This stands for approximately 25 % of the budget and the grants will be used to fund specific initiatives under the Community Action Plans, which are created with support from Forum Civ as a part of the Right(s) Way Forward methodology.