

UNICEF: Support to UNICEF Liberia country programme – Child Protection Thematic Area

	Implementing partner(s)	UNICEF
	Location	Nationwide, and Grand Bassa, Montserrado and Nimba counties
	Agreement period	December 2018 -December 2020
	Budget total (Sweden)	18 000 000 SEK

Overview and objectives

UNICEF is supporting Liberia to build a comprehensive child protection system. It aims to interrupt a cycle of violence, abuse and deprivation for children and adolescents by establishing child protection services and systems, improving birth registration, and implementing child protection laws.



Figure 1: Logo for UNICEF, the programme partner

There are two broad outcome areas within the UNICEF country programme that the embassy supports: The first one aims to ensure that most vulnerable children, adolescents, and young people benefit from quality essential social services and social safety nets and live in a safe and protective environment. The second outcome area has the overall aim to ensure that all children, adolescents and young people, especially the most vulnerable, can access gender-sensitive and age-appropriate justice and protection systems and are empowered to influence the realization of their rights.

The programme outcomes targeted are:

- **Capacity strengthening of the Ministry of Gender, Children and Social Protection** social welfare work force in Liberia in dealing with child protection issues;
- **Strengthening of the birth registration system** in selected four counties in Liberia;
- **Access to child friendly justice system** amongst children in conflict with the law through support to the Child Justice section of the Ministry of Justice;
- **Empowerment of vulnerable adolescents** through the 'Let Us Learn' (LUL) programme.

Activities

Activities include the development of regulations or standard operating procedures issued under the Children's Law on the process of child protection and to provide interim care arrangements for 100 children resided at the MGCSP managed and run interim care facility. Furthermore, Birth Registration Centers will be established in hospital and facility level, to further enable the protection of a child's right to a name and identity.

UNICEF raises awareness of provisions relating to juveniles amongst law enforcement, social workers and the magistracy. Ensure all police stations separate detained children from adults. Undertake research on the effectiveness of the juvenile justice system and the impact of diversion on future offending.

Finally, UNICEF aims to equip adolescents, parents and others with child protection knowledge and skills, the programme runs awareness raising sessions, life-skills training to out of school adolescents, parenting training, child protection training for teachers, and birth registration campaigns.