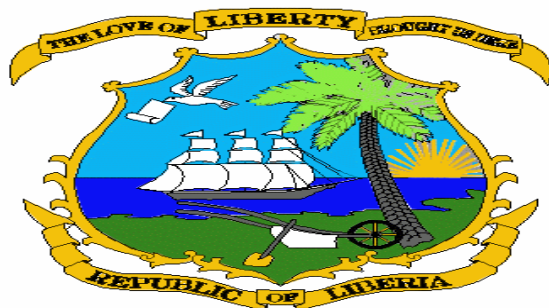


# **Liberia's Gender Strategy: A Look AT THE NATIONAL GENDER POLICY**



**BY**

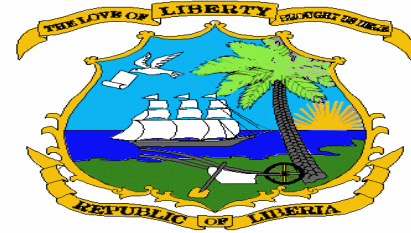
**Sieane Abdul-Baki**

**Acting Minister**

**Ministry of Gender, Children and Social Protection,  
Liberia**

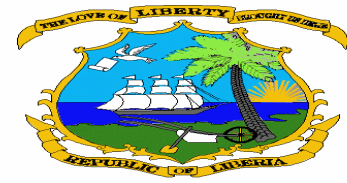
**Kigali, November 2, 2017**

# OUTLINE



- Overview of the National Gender Policy(NGP)
- Revision process of the National Gender Policy  
Rationale and justification for the revision
- Emerging Issues/Opportunities
- Linking the 20 priority areas of the NGP to the  
SDGs
- Where are we now?
- Challenges

# OVERVIEW OF NGP

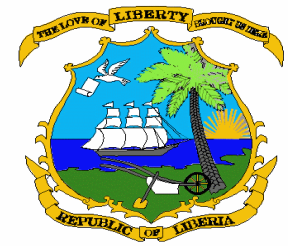


- NGP is the enabling instrument of government on addressing gender inequalities
- An instrument of change; a sign of high level commitment by government
- Provides a framework for accountability on GEWE
- Strategic Results Framework (2010-2015)

## Policy Goal

- *Equitable socio-economic development*
- *Women/girls emp. for sustainable & equitable development*
- *Improved capacity for gender mainstreaming*
- *Gender responsive structures, systems and processes*
- *Women and men participate equally, access, benefit from country's resources*
- NGP has **8 specific objectives**
- Built around a **twin-track approach**: targeted interventions AND gender mainstreaming

# NGP BROAD OUTCOMES



- **FOUR OUTCOMES**

1. Gender mainstreamed in all sectors/ levels
2. Human rights guaranteed, protected and enforced + gender justice
3. Enhanced productivity of WMBG
4. Increased gender knowledge & changes in perception of roles and rights of women + children

# REVISION PROCESS OF THE NGP



- The initial policy development process in 2009 and the revision in 2017 represents the culmination of a long consultative process which included members of civil society, academia, government, private sector, development partners etc;
- The time frame for the Liberia NGP originally adopted in 2009 was intended to be 10 years (2010 – 2020). A mid-term evaluation of the Policy was delayed as a result of the Ebola outbreak.
- The second five year period is being adjusted, and has necessitated the extension of the duration of the NGP to the next five years to 2022. **The implementation of the NGP will be 2017-2022.**

# RATIONALE AND JUSTIFICATION FOR THE REVISION



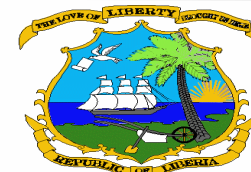
- (i) changing national institutional context with the expanded mandate of the Ministry of Gender which now includes social protection;
- (ii) changing international context as the global development focus shifted from the (MDGs) to the 2030 Agenda/Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs);
- (iii) emerging issues since 2011 to date that require a different direction of focus on gender equality
- (v) the persistence of gender inequality in all spheres of life and slow progress in many areas for women;



# Emerging Issues/Opportunities

Emerging Issues	Opportunities
<p>(i) Liberia's national strategic plan: Agenda for Transformation does not make reference to the NGP</p>	<p>Existence of the NGP that will be strengthened to ensure coordination of gender mainstreaming work, and that Ministries mainstream gender into their programmes;</p>
<p>(ii) there is limited focus on boys and young men;</p>	<p>Close attention will be paid to the situation of boys and young men under priority on vulnerable groups</p>
<p>(iii) Weak civil society for the implementation of the NGP;</p>	<p>CSO currently works with MSCSP and major partners. CSO will be strengthened as part of the coordination and mainstreaming priority</p>

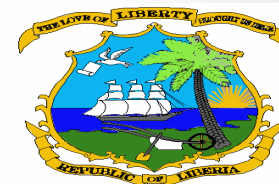
# Emerging Issues/Opportunities



Emerging Issues	Opportunities
(vi) High teenage pregnancy rate	There are existing family planning services, so the emphasis in the revised policy will be making sure teenagers use the services, get the education, programmes established so that girls will return to school
(vii) the negative impact of mining activities on boys	Identified during the mid-term review. Interventions around child labor, education on education of boys.

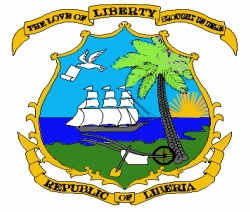


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## LINKING THE 20 PRIORITY AREAS TO THE SDGs



### **Collapse the 20 priority areas to seven priority areas**

1. Mainstreaming and coordination (gender mainstreaming and GRB);
2. Gender and Economic sectors (economic empowerment, agriculture, employment)
3. Justice, human rights (peace and national security, GBV and VAW);
4. Political participation;
5. Human development (education, health, social protection);
6. Research and Sex- Disaggregated Data; Monitoring and Evaluation;)
7. Others (Media, Information, and Communication Technology;

# Linking the NGP to the SDGs

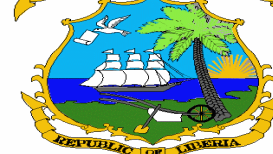
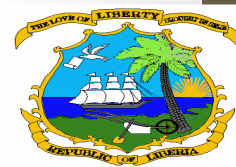


Table 1. Framework for Aligning the National Gender Policy (NGP) with Agenda for Transformation, and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

No	SDGs	Targets	Agenda For Transformation Gender Outcome Indicators	NGP 17 Priorities	Nexus between 20 NGP Priorities and the SDGs
1	SDG 1: End poverty in all its forms everywhere	<p>By 2030, ensure that all men and women, in particular the poor and the vulnerable, have equal rights to economic resources, as well as access to basic services, ownership and control over land and other forms of 13 property, inheritance, natural resources, appropriate new technology and financial services, including microfinance.</p> <p>Create sound policy frameworks at the national, regional and international levels, based on pro-poor and gender-sensitive development strategies, to support accelerated investment in poverty eradication actions.</p>	<p>Increased proportion of urban and agricultural land formally titled (with an increasing share to women) and economically utilized.</p> <p>Reduced average time and number of steps to obtain an official title to a parcel of land.</p> <p>Improvement in the access by women to land, inputs and credit in agriculture and MSMES.</p>	<p>Human rights and Gender Based Violence</p> <p>Environment and Natural Resources</p> <p>Economic Empowerment</p>	<p>The Ministry will oversee that line ministries, and partners' programs empower women through the provision of training, rights awareness, practical and strategic skills to empower poor women economically give them a voice and a platform to hold government accountable, and strengthen social services. We also work to ensure women's access to basic services, control over land and other forms of property, inheritance, natural resources, appropriate new technology and financial services.</p>
2	SDG 2: End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture	<p>By 2030, end all forms of malnutrition, including achieving, by 2025, the internationally agreed targets on stunting and wasting in children under 5 years of age, and address the nutritional needs of adolescent girls, pregnant and lactating women and older persons.</p> <p>By 2030, double the agricultural productivity and incomes of small-scale food producers, in particular women, indigenous peoples, family farmers, pastoralists and fishers, including through secure and equal access to land, other productive resources and inputs, knowledge, financial services, markets and opportunities for value addition and non-farm employment.</p>	<p>Increased number and viability of agriculture and fishery associations, with participation of women and youth.</p> <p>Increased number of viable community and private-sector forestry enterprises. Increased forest production, exports, value-added and employment, including of youth, women and other vulnerable groups as confirmed by the Timber chain-of-custody.</p> <p>Increased forest production, exports, value-added, and employment including of youth, women and other vulnerable groups.</p>	<p>Agriculture, Water Resources and Access to land</p>	<p>The Ministry supports equitable distribution of productive resources. The Ministry will work on raising awareness on women's access, ownership and control of productive resources for agriculture which include, land, water, credit, technology etc, push for the eradication of formal and informal laws and statutes that discriminates against women and girls, training for women farmers and extension services</p>

# WHERE ARE WE NOW?/Challenge



- All inputs has been incorporated and Technical staffs of MGCSP ,UNWOMEN and partners have been identified to do final review by November 15,2017
- Human resource capacity gaps
- Staff turnover and decision making level of GFP (Gender Focal Points) at Ministries and agencies
- Coordination and monitoring of NGP implementation
- Lack of national budgetary allocation for NGP implementation



THANKS