



## CENTRAL BANK OF LIBERIA **MARKET BUYING AND SELLING RATES**

LIBERIAN DOLLARS PER US DOLLAR **BUYING** DATE **SELLING** MONDAY, MAY 29, 2023 L\$167.1178/US\$1.00 L\$169.1079/US\$1.00

These are indicative rates based on results of daily surveys of foreign exchange market in Monrovia and selected cities of Liberia. These rates are collected from the Central bank commercial banks, parallel market and the license forex bureaux. The rates are not set by the Central Bank of Liberia. Source: Research, Policy and Planning Department, CBL

# **French Version Inside**

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**VOL. 13 NO. 086** MONDAY, MAY 29, 2023 **PRICE LD\$40.00** MIRES arlyne Cllr. Charlyne Brumskine and Mr. Alexander Cummings

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- **GENERAL INFORMATION**
- **SOLICITATION NO: VA-669-23-000020**
- ISSUANCE DATE: May 24, 2023

(TIN) before employment.

- CLOSING DATE AND TIME FOR RECEIPT OF OFFERS: June 15, 2023, 11:59 pm Local Time,
- POINT OF CONTACT: Executive Officer, email at LiberiaHR@usaid.gov
- POSITION TITLE: Project Management Specialist (Strategic Information/ Monitoring, Evaluation, and Learning [SI/MEL])
- **MARKET VALUE:** USD \$35,104 USD \$56,160 FSN-10 In accordance with **AIDAR Appendix J** and the Local Compensation Plan of USAID Final compensation will be negotiated within the listed market value. Note that all U.S. Embassy Locally Employed Staff are expected to observe and fulfill all tax obligations imposed by the Government of Liberia and you will be required to provide a Taxpayer Identification Number
- PERIOD OF PERFORMANCE: This contract will be for up to five years depending on programmatic needs, funding availability, and satisfactory performance. This is considered a permanent position and employment under any contract issued under this solicitation is of a continuing nature. Its duration is expected to be part of a series of sequential contracts; all contract clauses, provisions, and regulatory requirements concerning availability of funds and the specific duration of the contract shall apply.
- PLACE OF PERFORMANCE: Monrovia, Liberia,
- ELIGIBLE OFFERORS: Individuals who are Liberian citizens or non-Liberian citizens lawfully admitted for permanent residence in Liberia. Current employees serving a probationary period with the mission are not eligible to apply.
- 10. SECURITY LEVEL REQUIRED: Facility access.

#### 11. STATEMENT OF DUTIES

The USAID Project Management Specialist (Strategic Information/Monitoring, Evaluation, and Learning [SI/MEL]) position sits within the USAID Liberia Health Office, Service Delivery Team, and supports the development of and reporting on PEPFAR strategic information and monitoring, evaluation, and learning systems in support of Contracting/Agreement Officer's Representatives (C/AORs), Activity Managers and Advisors managing Mission PEPFAR programs/projects/activities as well as the interagency PEPFAR team.

The SI Specialist provides technical expertise for program monitoring and evaluation; data collection, use and analysis of large complex data sources; and surveillance and health informatics analysis and visualization for the USAID Mission, the broader PEPFAR inter-agency and host country stakeholders. He/she serves as the coordinator for meeting key reporting timelines related to the interagency Liberia PEPFAR program. The incumbent will be responsible for reporting on progress toward achieving PEPFAR targets as well as translating strategic information into improved PEPFAR programming, responsive service delivery and providing accountability for use of PEPFAR resources. S/He will coordinate data collection across the implementing agencies for all PEPFAR data streams, including performance indicators, site improvement through Monitoring System (SIMS) results, and expenditure analysis data.

The job holder guides USAID Implementing Partners (IP) and collaborates with development partner stakeholders and host country counterparts on mutually identified critical operational research and/or targeted public health evaluation questions; provides assistance in development of strategies and protocols to address those questions; and helps disseminate findings to the broader community within USG, development partners and host country stakeholders. The incumbent may be expected to perform work-related travel.

#### **Major Duties and Responsibilities**

#### A. Program/Project/Activity Performance Management and Reporting (50%)

- Responds to strategic information inquiries; gathers and compiles regular updates for OGAC, PEPFAR West Africa Region, USAID/Washington; assists CORs/AORs/Activity Managers by interfacing directly with implementing partners on data reported to USAID, the interagency and/or to the Government of Liberia (GOL).
- Addresses program-related vulnerabilities; and shares pertinent information on other development partner programs. S/he conducts regular site visits to review and provide feedback on program implementation, this may include meeting with beneficiaries.
- Provides technical guidance to Health Office, Mission staff, IPs, and other USG agencies on MEL concepts, processes, design, training, and best practices. Provides guidance to IPs in understanding of the Performance Monitoring Plan systems, and their role in the process, and advises on specific measurement techniques appropriate for their programs/projects/activities.
- Provides technical strategic information (SI) and monitoring and evaluation (M&E) expertise to the Program Office, USAID/Washington, and other USG agencies to plan and manage Health Office responsibilities related to the PMP, including collection, assessment of validity, and improving data quality. Develops innovative and cross-cutting monitoring tools, including Data Quality Assessment and Improvement (DQA/I) tools in coordination with the Program Office and SI/MEL contractors; tracks and maintains multiple sets of key indicators, common indicators related to standard components in all USAID programs/projects/activities, indicators at the strategic objective level, and detailed indicators at the activity level; and, ensures proper collection of data, and that indicators serve is an appropriate measure of their corresponding result.
- Leads, designs, and performs assessments/studies/research requiring independent analysis and interpretation, on a regular and recurring basis; studies and research are cross-cutting and include substantive and often sensitive Mission and Health Office topics. Briefs Health Office and Mission leaders on findings and makes recommendations to impact strategic, operational, and programmatic direction.

#### **B. Technical Support (35%)**

- Provides guidance to PEPFAR/Health team on defining measurable indicators and targets for desired results addressed by their program/project/activity, and edits quarterly, semi-annual, and annual performance reports. Provides technical expertise for program monitoring and evaluation; data collection use and analysis of large complex data sources; and surveillance and health informatics analysis and visualization for the USAID Mission, the broader PEPFAR inter-agency and host country stakeholders.
- Provides technical direction to the PEPFAR team to monitor progress toward objectives as detailed in the Regional Operations Plan (ROP).
- Provides technical and operational support to ensure necessary and timely program-level data analytics requirements from OGAC are accurately interpreted and communicated to relevant USG agencies, in preparation for the annual ROP/Strategic Direction Summary (SDS) planning and development process, as well as country and program - level quarterly reviews.
- Serves as a key member of the Mission's M&E Team coordinated by the Mission's Program Office; and as a reviewer of Mission evaluation designs and reports,
- participating on Mission evaluation teams.
  Guides USAID IPs and collaborates with development partner stakeholders and host country counterparts on mutually identified critical operational research and/o targeted public health evaluation questions; contributes to development of strategies and protocols to address those questions; and helps disseminate findings to the broader community within USG, development partners and host country stakeholders.
- Provides support on the development of standards and indicators for assessing program effectiveness and quality to be assessed on site visits and feedback provided to program staff. Provides support to strengthen the capacity of USAID and partners staff in the use of appropriate data management systems to measure and track progress made toward achieving
- targets based on required indicators. Advises on data collection and program monitoring tools and systems.
- Leads work and coordination with IPs to ensure PEPFAR data reporting requirements are met on a timely basis. Related activities include reviews of guidance documents, PEPFAR targets for the annual ROP, quarterly progress reports, and stakeholder meetings to analyze progress against targets.
- Assists in the analysis and interpretation of quantitative and qualitative data from various sources including SIMS (Site Improvement Monitoring System), Data for Accountability, Transparency, and Impact Monitoring (DATIM), District Health Information System 2 (DHIS2), and facility and partner-level data.
- Participates in the review and approval of annual work plans and periodic reports of USAID partners.

#### C. Representation & Public Speaking (15%)

- Attends external meetings, committees, and task teams, including GOL-facilitated technical working groups, as needed to represent the Liberia/PEPFAR interagency team. • Supports development and presentations for research publications and/or abstracts for national and international conferences and symposiums.
- Presents PEPFAR program performance results, research results and M&E plans to OGAC, USAID/Washington, USAID/Liberia, PEPFAR interagency stakeholders and external stakeholders that include other development partners, private sector partners, GOL, USG counterparts from other countries and PEPFAR IPs.

- Actively engages in local SI capacity building of host country governments and other local organizations to strengthen the collection, analysis, and use of data for program planning and direction.
- Travel: International and local travel may be required.

#### Supervision controls: None

Supervisory Relationship: The USAID Strategic Information / Monitoring, Evaluation, and Learning [SI/MEL] Specialist works within the Service Delivery Team, and under the direct supervision of the Service Delivery Team Lead or designee. The supervisor makes assignments in terms of overall objectives and resources available. The day-to-day work is directed by the Care and Treatment Program Management Specialist. Completed work is reviewed in terms of achievement of program/project/activity goals, products produced, effectiveness in meeting host-country and USAID objectives, and integration with other initiatives in the Office and Mission portfolio. Some technical direction may come from other professionals in the Office; in general, however, the incumbent will be expected to exercise considerable autonomy and best judgment in discharging the duties of the assignment.

#### 12. PHYSICAL DEMANDS

The work requested does not involve undue physical demands.

#### MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS REQUIRED FOR THIS POSITION

- **Education**: Minimum bachelor's degree in social science, statistics, mathematics, mathematics, economics, computer science, epidemiology, health informatics, public health, infectious disease, zoonotic disease, biology is required.
- Prior Work Experience: Minimum of five years of progressively responsible job-related professional-level experience in monitoring, evaluation, and learning (MEL) and other surveillance systems, evaluation of program/project/activity implementation, in direct program/project/activity management, or in a closely related activity is required. Field experience in data analysis and interpretation, , data collection, data quality evaluation and in fulfilling reporting requirements is required. Experience working in Liberia and/or in another African country and working in a multicultural bilingual environment is
- Work/Residency Permits: Familiarization training in USAID- and PEPFAR-specific procedures, regulations, reporting tools and methods, and orientation to working from a donor-Agency perspective, will be provided. Successful completion of formal C/AOR training is necessary for proper job performance and will be provided. Training to maintain professional capability in the field, and other courses offered for professional USAID staff, as appropriate; and courses, seminars, conferences, and other activities in fields related to the function and needed to maintain and update professional qualifications may be provided as they become available, subject to availability of funds.
- **Language Proficiency**: Level IV (fluent proficiency) in English (reading, written and spoken) is required. Language competence may be tested.
- Job Knowledge: The incumbent must have in-depth, professional-level knowledge of development approaches and methods for performance analysis, data visualization, and program design, monitoring, and evaluation. The incumbent must have excellent knowledge of MEL systems, public health programming, and international donor operations in the sector. The incumbent must have knowledge and understanding of the economic, political, social, and cultural characteristics of the host country; development problems in the health sector in the host country and the region; an understanding of the resources, resource constraints, and overall development prospects and priorities of the host country and the region. The incumbent must have working knowledge of USG legislation, policy, and practice relating to monitoring, evaluation, and learning, and of USAID programming policies, regulations, procedures, and documentation, and of the objectives, methodology, and status of assigned activities.
- Skills and Abilities: The incumbent must have the ability to plan, organize, manage, and evaluate HIV-AIDS and clinical care activities. S/he must have strong verbal communication skills and diplomatic skills in order to form good working relations with technical level national and local government officials, other development partners and external stakeholders Verbal communication skills must be sufficient to explain complex data analyses and interpret PEPFAR attitudes, priorities, and concerns. Writing skills must be sufficient to prepare and edit regular and ad-hoc reports with special emphasis on data visualization, in keeping with Agency and PEPFAR requirements. The incumbent must be proficient with Tableau, Microsoft Excel, PowerPoint, Word, and email platforms. S/he must have strong capacity to manage activity goals and achievements. both technical and financial; must have skills in project programming and strategy development; and must be able to work effectively in a team environment to achieve consensus on policy, project, and administrative matters. The incumbent must have the ability to acquire knowledge of USAID programming policies, procedures, regulations, and documentation, and of the objectives and methodology of assigned activities.

#### III. **EVALUATION AND SELECTION FACTORS**

The Evaluation Factors listed below will be the basis for evaluating and ranking applicants for the position. Applicants will be scored based on the documentation submitted within the application. Applicants must submit a supplemental document outlining their responses to the

#### Selection Process

After the closing date for receipt of applications, a committee will convene to review applications that meet the minimum requirements and evaluate them in accordance with the evaluation criteria. As part of the selection process, the most qualified candidates will be interviewed. Reference checks will be made only for applicants considered as finalists. The applicant's references must be able to provide substantive information about his/her past performance and abilities.

#### 2. Evaluation Factors

Those applicants who meet the minimum education and experience qualifications will be evaluated based on the content of their application as well as on the applicant's writing, presentation, and communication skills. Applicants should include their name and the announcement number at the top of each additional page. Failure to specifically address the Evaluation Factors will result in the applicant not receiving full credit for pertinent experience.

In 250 words or less, describe your experience collecting, managing, and visualizing data. Provide examples of your information management skills to collect, analyze, manage, and visualize data, especially data related to health programs.

Applicants determined to be competitively ranked will also be evaluated on their interview formance and satisfactory professional reference checks. The Applicant Rating System is as follows:

Evaluation Factors 10 points

Timed data analysis and presentation exercise: 50 points

The data analysis and presentation exercise will demonstrate the candidate's ability to use a data management tool to interpret, analyze and visualize sample datasets for a typical PERFAR HIV program.

Interview Performance 40 points

Interview questions will revolve around the candidate's ability to:

- Management abilities
- Teamwork and interpersonal skills Technical knowledge

## Total Possible Points 100 points

Applications must be submitted electronically by email with the subject line VA-669-23-000020 – Project Management Specialist (Strategic Information/ Monitoring, Evaluation, and Learning [SI/MEL]) LiberiaHR@usaid.gov

Applicants may submit an application prior to the closing date and time specified in Section I, item 3 mentioned above unless revised.

Qualified applicants must submit the following documents or their applications will not be

- 1. A current curriculum vitae (CV) or resume, not to exceed 3 pages.
- 2. A minimum of three (3) professional references who are not family members or relatives, with working telephone and email contacts. The applicant's references must be able to provide substantive information about his/her past performance and abilities. At least one reference provided should be a current or former supervisor.

  A supplemental document with a written response to the Evaluation Factor(s).

Candidates who are applying for this position must fully meet the education requirement (graduated and degree and/or diploma already received) as specified. Candidates must also meet the full work experience requirement and demonstrate in their application that they are an eligible offeror as required in I.9 above. There is no exception to these requirements

Short-listed candidates may be requested to provide educational documents such as transcripts for degrees, diplomas, certificates, and other pertinent documents as needed.

Any attachments provided via email must be compatible with Microsoft Word or PDF and not zipped. Note that attachments to email must not exceed 25 MB. Incomplete applications will not be considered.

The Agency retains the right to cancel or amend the solicitation and associated actions at any stage of the recruitment process.

EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY: The U.S. Mission provides equal opportunity and fair and equitable treatment in employment to all people without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, disability, political affiliation, marital status, or sexual orientation.

# **Salvos for VP Jewel Howard Taylor**

**Vice President Jewel** Howard Taylor is perhaps still recuperating from the barrage of criticisms she suffered last week for instigating youth from her National Patriotic Party and the ruling Coalition for Democratic Change to storm the Christ Chapel of Faith Ministry of Senator Prince Yormie Johnson in Paynesville, leaving worshipers running for their lives.

Dressed in their respective party regalia and chanting "War crimes court! War crimes court!, youth wings of both the NPP and CDC that form the ruling Coalition government of President George Weah converged on the church premises in a militant mood, which left frightened worshipers running helter-skelter, including Senator/Evangelist Johnson himself, who was preparing to deliver his Sunday sermon on May 21.

The overly zealous party youth had been motivated reportedly by a Facebook post from PYJ that he was prepared to respond to VP Taylor's characterization of his person at an endorsement rally held last week in the joint chambers of the Capitol. Mrs. Taylor described PYJ as a "killer" who took the lives of thousands of Liberians during the civil war, calling for his prosecution before a war crimes court.

It is the threat to respond by the Senator/Evangelist that mobilized the NPP youth council and the CDC youth wing to move on his church on Sunday, May 21, to disrupt the worship.

But immediately after the despicable act, former Vice President Joseph Nyumah Boakai swiftly condemned VP Jewel Taylor, for unleashing thugs on PYJ, noting that such a brazen act of thuggery is without a shred of doubt reprehensible, inconceivable, unacceptable, and sheer provocation, adding that it is shameful that such lawlessness is done in the name of Vice President Jewel Howard Taylor, said to be a Lawyer, who he notes, by oath bears greater responsibility to uphold the rule of law and respect the constitutional rights of others.

Former Montserrado County lawmaker David Kotie urged Vice President Jewel Howard Taylor to desist from making inflammatory statements that could put Liberia in trouble, lamenting in a very angry tune that it's unfortunate for a person occupying high position in government like Vice President Taylor to make statements that will threaten the peace of the country.

Also, the standard bearer of the opposition Vision for Liberia Transformation Party (VOLT) Dr. Jeremiah Z. Whapoe, reacting to the distasteful behavior by the political parties' youth said VP Howard-Taylor doesn't have any moral rectitude to hold on and question the ability of any well-meaning Liberian for best living or character.

"This Vice President is a beneficiary and supporter of the war that killed many in this country. She aided and abetted the war by giving her exhusband, former President Charles Taylor advice to kill Liberians. Madam Howard-Taylor and former President Charles Taylor are responsible for the two hundred and fifty thousand Liberians that died in the civil war", Dr. Whapoe added.

Besides reactions from these leaders, Madam Taylor also suffered mass criticism from the public despite being a Christian herself, for turning a blind eye on youth from the ruling establishment going to disrupt a church service in her defense. Even a faction of the Vice President's NPP headed by Senator James P. Biney of Maryland County, said sadly, this latest action by Madam Taylor's loyalists in the party destroyed all they have worked for over the years in trying to rebrand the NPP.

We are taken aback that Vice President Taylor, a mother and leader of high respect, could have stood too low in the name of politicking to promote wrong. Madam Taylor should muster the courage to rise above dirty politics and know that as a sitting Vice President of Liberia, the onus is on her to provide leadership at all times irrespective of political interest. Liberia is bigger than any one political party and maintaining the peace should be paramount.

Published by the Searchlight Communications Inc., UN Drive, P.O. Box 1266 Opposite National Investment Commission. Monrovia-Liberia. Tel: +231-06484201, +231-77007529, +231-0555422200 / +231-775407211 Managing Editor: Othello B. Garblah; Editor-In-Chief: Jonathan K. Browne www.thenewdawnliberia.com; Email: info@thenewdawnliberia.com

## ON 2ND THOUGHTS



with Othello B. Garblah

# Beyond corruption within the judiciary

In his 2008 US\$1.4 Million corruption trial, former interim President Charles Gyude Bryant (late), in accusing the government of unfair trial said he was not being tried by "jurors of his peers."

From a legal perspective, a juror of one's peer is a jury whose members are from the same community as the person on trial.

It is also a way of getting a fair jury made up of men and women who could be considered peers of the person who is on trial. This helps in reducing the chances of bias among the jurors.

In the late Bryant's argument, members of the jury who were charged with responsibility of deciding whether, on the facts of the case, he was guilty or not guilty of the offense for which he was charged were men and women outside of his social circle and therefore, not qualified to try him.

In other words, they could not understand the intricacies of the matter at hand and therefore could not have handed down a fair and unbiased verdict in the trial.

The late Bryant's argument of not being tried by "jurors of his peers" is one of the fundamental problems facing the Liberian Justice System that is most often or not ignored by critics of the local justice system.

Human Rights reports on the Liberian Judiciary have remained focused on bribery and corruption within the local justice system and how the rich and powerful are able to manipulate the system to steer justice in their favor.

But what has not been mentioned beyond bribery and corruption, particularly in criminal trials is the role of jurors. An uninformed jury is totally not aware of the fundamentals of the case at hand and is unable to hand down a fair and unbiased verdict that could be considered a miscarriage of justice as well.

The argument here is that select individuals who are clothed with the authority to determine the factual questions and final judgment should have knowledge of the matter at trial and not just be hand-picked to sit on a juror panel.

From personal experience, it appears that some jurors are not just abreast of the charges or have no experience in such cases. In such situations, verdicts are most likely to be influenced by emotions, intimidation, etc.

When jurors are far from or not connected to the argument of the case at hand, they remained uninformed and have no idea about the factual question of the case at hand. Therefore, their verdict will not just be unfair and biased, but it will also compromise the entire trial.

This raises the question as to how jurors are selected to preside over jury trials here. In one particular case, I was told, the jurors were selected based on their college experiences and not their experiences on such matters.

Selecting a juror because he or she is a "college" graduate with no prior experience sitting on a jury panel to preside over a matter of national security speaks volumes.

In most jurisdictions, relevant life experiences as it relates to the case in question are considered an important aspect in selecting or de-selecting a potential juror.

Other things to consider could include but are not limited to the person's ability to withstand social pressure, legal opinions, ability to be impartial, etc. To select a group of individuals who have little or no knowledge of interpreting the facts at hand in the name of forming a jury panel is a mockery of the intent of the framers of the Constitution.

In the late Gyude Bryant trial, the Liberian Government lost the case following a series of prohibitions one of which was a writ of prohibition issued by the Supreme Court. Bryant's lawyers asked the Supreme Court to stop his prosecution on grounds that the late Bryant was a former head of state who brought peace to the country and could not be held for actions he took while he was in office. Well, whether or not that was decided on merits or demerits, it's left for the lawyers to argue.







Special Agrendustrial Processing Zone (SAPZ) Project

**CONSULTANCY SERVICE "VALUE CHAIN TRAINING AND MAPPING OF** FARMERS' GROUPS IN KEY VALUE CHAIN AND VALUE CHAIN DEVELOPMENT FOR THE (LIBERIA) SPECIAL AGRO-INDUSTRIAL ZONE (SAPZ), BUCHANAN CÌTY - GRAND BASSA COUNTY- LIBERIA

Sector: Agriculture/Industry

Financing Agreement Reference: 2100150042703

Project ID: PLR-AA0-009

#### 1. BACKGROUND

The Government of Liberia has received funding from the African Development Bank (AfDB) towards the establishment of a Special Agro-Industrial Processing Zone (SAPZ) over a period of five (5) years, (January 2022 to December 2026), and intends to apply part of the agreed amount

towards funding activity one (1) (Value Chain Training and Mapping of Farmers' Groups in Key Value Chain and Value Chain Development) under component two of the project: (Enable skills and climate-smart agriculture value chain development and strengthen farmer coordination)

The Consultancy Services is for training and capacity building of smallholder farmers, farming groups, MSMEs and young entrepreneurs to adopt and use improved agricultural practices and to diversify and add value to their agricultural produce with the view of enhancing agricultural productivity and entrepreneurship across selected value chain. The service also include the mapping of various farming communities, cooperatives and farmers' groups, regional actors/ suppliers across priority value chains, identify value chain gaps, binding constrains, availability of resources, capacity and use of best practices. It also seeks to enhance the capacity of targeted beneficiaries to apply entrepreneurial skills and principles to agriculture including marketing agricultural produce and products. Accordingly, this will support the strengthening and competitive market participation of farmers, farming groups, small- and medium-sized agricultural enterprises (AGRO-SMEs) along the selected value chains. Overall, this assignment will support the implementation and the realization of the objective of Component Two of the

project, which aims to support "capacity building of climate smart agricultural value chain and skills development and farmer coordination with the view of enhancing agricultural productivity and competitiveness."

The project development goal is to contribute to inclusive and sustainable agro-industrial development in Liberia, and in the process reduce staple food imports, create jobs and reduce poverty.

The Project will enhance the competitiveness of smallholder farmers, MSMEs, young entrepreneurs and create inclusive and equitable opportunities to integrate them into the up- and downstream aspects of agriculture value chains linked to the agro-industrial park. It will strengthen the linkage between agriculture actors and industry activities, by building the capacity of local rural smallholder farmers, young entrepreneurs and small-scale enterprises to produce and operate as competitive business entities. This will link agricultural production to the market by bringing together farmers, processors, and retailers to maximize value addition, minimize wastage, increase farmers' income and create employment opportunities particularly in the rural

The project is structured around three related components including: (a) Support the development of Climate-resilient Infrastructure to attract investments into Agricultural Value addition/industrialization, (b) Support Business Competitiveness, Enable skills and climate-smart agricultural value chain development and strengthen farmer coordination and, (c) Strengthen Institutional Capacity, Project Coordination & Management.

The Services will include but not limited to the following:

The scope of services for this assignment involves value chain training and analyzing the value chain of commodities identified as well as mapping out the various farmers' group and cooperatives for the Liberia SAPZ. This will include:

- To train smallholder farmers, farming groups and cooperatives in Good Agriculture Practice for selected crops including (oil palm, cassava, cocoa, coffee, rice, aquaculture, fruits and vegetables, and rubber) to enhance agricultural productivity;
- ii. To train smallholder farmers, farming groups and cooperatives in improved farming techniques including climate smart farming techniques, use of improved seedlings and farm machinery, pest control and application of herbicides, etc.;
- iii. To train smallholder farmers, farming groups and cooperatives in Agribusiness and Business Management/ Development;
- To provide Leadership Training to farming groups and cooperatives and link them to markets to sell their produce and to acquire inputs;
- Map out local and regional actors/ suppliers across priority value chains, identify value chain gaps, binding constrains, availability of resources, capacity and use of best
- Mapping of existing and new farming groups and or cooperatives; vi.
- vii. Provide training on farm aggregation for farmers to enable economies of scale;

eligible consulting firm ( in providing these services. Interested consulting firm (s) must provide information indicating that that they are qualified to perform the services, (i) information detailing the company's existence and areas of expertise (ii) list of similar assignments and experience in similar conditions, (iii) list of overall permanent and temporary staff in fields related to the assignment (Qualification will be considered from one of two perspectives; a, firm's qualification and b, staff and consultants qualification), (iv) evidence of past performance if any, and (v) any other relevant information that might be useful. Consulting Firm may constitute joint ventures to enhance their chances of qualification.

Eligibility criteria, establishment of the short-list and the selection procedure shall be in accordance with the African Development Bank's "Procurement Policy and Methodology for Bank Group Funded Operations" (BPM), dated October 2015", which is available on the Bank's

Interested consulting firms may obtain further information at the address below during office hours 8:30AM – 5:00PM Monrovia Time.

Expressions of interest must be delivered in hardcopy or by email to the address below and clearly marked " EXPRESSION OF INTEREST for VALUE CHAIN TRAINING & MAPPING OF FARMERS' GROUPS IN KEY VALUE CHAIN AND VALUE CHAIN **DEVELOPMENT**" on or before 2:00pm Local time Tuesday, June 6, 2023.

Special Agro Industrial Processing Zone Project Attn: Andrew Anderson - Project Coordinator **National Investment Commission Project Implementation Unit M&E Professional Building** 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Room- 15

Sekou Touré Ave. UN Drive Tel: +231 886 976 983/ 8860 376 864/ 777 551 753

Email: aanderson2024@gmail.com/boimahqibson@gmail.com/ skmdolo979@gmail.com Monrovia, Liberia



REPUBLIC OF LIBERIA National Investment Commission (NIC) M&E Professional Building/ UN Drive Monrovia, Liberia



NEW DAWN 4



**Request for Expressions of Interest (REOI)** (Consultancy Services)

Special Agro-Industrial Processing Zone (SAPZ) Project

CONSULTANCY SERVICE FOR "PREPARATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL & SOCIAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT (ESIA)-STUDIES FOR INFRASTRUCTURE WORKS OF THE LIBERIA SPECIAL AGRO-INDUSTRIAL PROCESSING ZONE (SAPZ) PROJECT, BUCHANAN CITY - GRAND BASSA COUNTY - LIBERIA"

Sector: Agriculture/Industry

Financing Agreement Reference: 2100150042703

Project ID: P-LR-AA0-009

#### 1. BACKGROUND

The Government of Liberia has received funding from the African Development Bank (AfDB) towards the establishment of a Special Agro-Industrial Processing Zone (SAPZ) over a period of five (5) years, (January 2022 to December 2026), and intends to apply part of the agreed amount towards the provision of consulting services for:

Phase I: a) Preparation of an Environmental & Social Impact Assessment (ESIA) for Construction of a 5km Linked-Road to the Proposed Special Agro-Industrial Processing Zone (SAPZ)/Special Economic Zone (SEZ) designated site in Buchanan, Grand Bassa County; b). Conduct Stakeholder Consultation and Engagement for the construction of a 200ha perimeter fencing & signature gate, site grading and the use of a gender-sensitive communication strategy; and c). Preparation of an Environmental & Social Impact Assessment (ESIA) for the Construction of a 33kv Distribution line that stretches from the CLSG Buchanan substation to the Special Agro-Industrial Processing Zone (SAPZ) site.

Phase II: (a) Preparation of Environmental & Social Impact Assessment (ESIA) for Construction of Three (3) Agricultural Transformation Centers (ATCs) & Aggregation Centers (ACs) in Madina (Grand Cape mount County, Gbartala (Bong County) and Sanniquille (Nimba County) respectively.

The Project development goal is to contribute to inclusive and sustainable agro-industrial development in Liberia, and in the process reduce staple food imports, create jobs, and reduce poverty

The project development objectives are to: (i) Create a better business environment for increased investment in the agro industrial sector, (ii) Create opportunities for investments at the industrial level and coordinate the integration of small holder farms and agro processing industry into sustained agro value chains and, (iii) Improve capacities and skills to benefit from new agribusiness employment and value chain opportunities.

The project is structured around three related components including: (a) Support the development of Climate-resilient Infrastructure to attract investments into Agricultural Value addition/industrialization, (b) Support Business Competitiveness, Enable skills and climate-smart agricultural value chain development and strengthen farmer coordination and, (c) Strengthen Institutional Capacity, Project Coordination & Management.

The primary objective of the consultancy is to develop the required Environmental and Social Impact Assessments (ESIAs) with detailed Environmental and Social Management Plans (ESMPs) that satisfy the Environmental Protection Agency of Liberia compliance requirements, the African Development Bank's Integrated Safeguard Policies; and obtain the relevant permits for the project sub-components. These studies shall identify, predict and propose management strategies and implementation plans that address potential environmental, social, economic and gender sensitive impacts associated with the project activities. These studies shall provide detailed gender sensitive methodologies for the field assessments and management of environmental and social issues related to physical, biological and socioeconomic baseline of the project environment.

The scope of services will include but not limited to the following:

- Assess, review and identify the nature and magnitude of potential risks, vulnerabilities, and impacts associated to the project
- Conduct a gender-responsive baseline assessment of the physical, biological and socioeconomic environment of the project
- corridor in accordance with the appropriate Operational Standards and National Environmental Regulations;
  Assess and identify potential risks to social livelihood (men and women) and the environment including fauna (native species), vegetation, air quality and dust, noise and vibration, erosion and sediments control, water quality, heritage (Indigenous and nonindigenous), and provide appropriate mitigation measures and material actions needed to reduce any adverse impact to
- Conduct public consultations to be termed as "scoping" to identify, inform and receive input from the affected stakeholders and interested parties; The public consultative meetings should create a forum for information disclosure relative to the project and ensure that all relevant parties and stakeholders are involved and that women and men engage meaningfully;
- Identify and define, at an early stage of the Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA) process, the significant environmental and gender related issues, problems and alternatives related to the different phases of the proposed project or activity including a No Action Alternative of an Alternative Climate Sensitive approach in accordance with the appropriate African Development Bank's Operational Standard (Oss);
- Identify appropriate mitigation and improvement measures to prevent, minimize, mitigate or compensate for adverse impacts or enhance the environmental and social benefits of the project, including related accountability; develop environmental and gender monitoring program with indicators, allocate responsibilities/accountability and estimate monitoring costs/budget in accordance with appropriate (OSs):
- Prepare an environmental risk management plan, including an accident risk analysis, identify appropriate safety measures; identify institutional accountability and needs assessment procedures in accordance with appropriate (Oss);
- Develop an environmental and social management plans and strategies to ensure successful mitigation of all adverse impacts including gender related risks, develop a monitoring and evaluation plan that includes gender-sensitive indicators and institutional arrangements to execute this plan; and to provide clear instructions to works supervisors and contractors with regard to any measures that need to be implemented in order to limit potential negative impacts to acceptable levels in accordance with applicable African Development Bank's Operational Standards (Oss);
- Identify national, legal and administrative environmental and gender related policies relevant to the proposed project and relevant
- $Follow-up\ with\ the\ Environmental\ Protection\ Agency\ of\ Liberia\ for\ obtaining\ the\ EPA's\ permits\ for\ project\ sub-components;$ Prepare comprehensive, appropriate and accessible Grievance Redress Mechanism-(GRM) and a Sexual Gender Based Violence

reporting and referral system for the duration of the project. The National Investment Commission invites eligible consulting firm (s) to indicate their interest in providing these services.

Interested consulting firm (s) must provide information indicating that that they are qualified to perform the services, (i) information detailing the company's existence and areas of expertise (ii) list of similar assignments and experience in similar conditions, (iii) list of overall permanent and temporary staff in fields related to the assignment (Qualification will be considered from one of two other relevant information that might be useful. Consulting Firm may constitute joint ventures to enhance their chances of

Eligibility criteria, establishment of the short-list and the selection procedure shall be in accordance with the African Development Bank's "Procurement Policy and Methodology for Bank Group Funded Operations" (BPM), dated October 2015", which is available on the Bank's website at http://www.afdb.org.

Interested consulting firms may obtain further information at the address below during office hours 8:30AM - 5:00PM Monrovia

Expressions of interest must be delivered in hardcopy or by email to the address below and clearly marked "EXPRESSION OF INTEREST FOR PREPARATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL & SOCIAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT (ESIA) - STUDIES FOR INFRASTRUCTURE WORKS OF THE LIBERIA SPECIAL AGRO-INDUSTRIAL PROCESSING ZONE (SAPZ) PROJECT, BUCHANAN CITY - GRAND BASSA COUNTRY - LIBERIA" on or before 3:00pm Local time Monday, June 12,

 $Special Agro\,Industrial\,Processing\,Zone\,Project$ Attn: Andrew Anderson - Project Coordinator **National Investment Commission Project Implementation Unit** M&E Professional Building 2nd Floor, Room - 15

Sekou Touré Ave. UN Drive Tel: +231 886 976 983/8860 376 864/777 551 753

Email: aanderson2024@gmail.com/boimahgibson@gmail.com/skmdolo979@gmail.com Monrovia, Liberia

## MORE HEADLINE NEWS

## MORE HEADLINE NEWS

## MTN named #1 African brand doing good |

2023

for people and the planet Johnannesburg, South at the core," said MTN Group Africa, May 26, 2026) President and Chief Executive

MTN Group has been Officer Ralph Mupita. "It named by Brand Africa as the motivates us to keep focused number one African brand that on providing leading digital is doing good for people, solutions for Africa's progress society and the environment in and to ensure that everyone



a new category of its annual enjoys the benefits of a modern awards inspired by businesses connected life." shifting from profit to purpose.

By: Emmanuel wise Jipoh

ahead of the October 10th

Presidential and Legislative

Elections, while pledging to

deliver Gbarpolu County to the

elected as an independent

candidate in the December 8,

2020, Special Senatorial

election, and was sworn in office on March 30, 2021, after

the Supreme Court rules in her

favor against the ruling

Coalition for Democratic

Change Candidate Alfred

Koiwood's allegation of fraud.

endorsing the UP ticket at the

official endorsement of former

Vice President Joseph Nyumah

Boakai and running mate

Senator Jeremiah Koung

dubbed as 'RESCUE TEAM' by

the Movement for One Liberia

(MOL ) held in Congo Town,

The female senator while

Senator Kanneh, was

barpolu County

Senator Botoe

Kanneh supports the

The new award category Brand Africa also named MTN acknowledges MTN's as the most admired African contributions towards brand recalled spontaneously. empowering people, "As we celebrate Africa Day, supporting sustainable societal we are greatly encouraged to development and preserving receive this accolade, which the environment. Through our recognises our work to deliver broad range of initiatives and on our strategic priority to alliances, MTN Group create shared value with ESG demonstrates dedication to

**Sen. Botoe Kanneh endorses** 

making a positive difference in the lives of Africans.

Understanding that commitment needs to translate into action, our advances in this regard in 2022 include ensuring greater digital inclusion by extending broadband (including rural) coverage to almost 88% of the population in our markets; contributing approximately 7.6 billion US dollars in economic value-added to society; and reducing GHG emissions by around 13.9% as part of journey to achieve net zero emissions by 2040.

"This award would not have been possible without the support of the many stakeholders with whom we engage every day. I would like to thank them all - among them our customers, our employees, governments and regulators, and society at large across our 19 markets," added Mupita as he acknowledged the role of the Group's partners in its achievements in connecting the unconnected, uplifting communities and protecting the planet:

In April, Brand Finance assigned MTN the highest 'sustainability perceptions value' of all companies in its 'South Africa 100 2023' survey in which the Group retained the rank as South Africa's most valuable brand.

#### pending elections, and the only way to get this President out is for us to collaborate, whether Independent or not, I am with the Unity Party and we are ready to board the train to achieve this fate",

She vows to vigorously campaign for the UP and its rescue mission in Gbarpolu,

Senator Kanneh says.

Boakai-Koung Ticket calls for collective efforts to defeat incumbent President George Weah.

She admits that going to the election against a sitting President and government Boakai-Koung Ticket of the opposition Unity Party (UP) cannot be done by a single party to come out victoriously, but needs support of the opposition bloc, calling for all nands to be deck.



"No one party can win these to ensure that President Weah

## Bassa officials endorse **Weah's second term bid**

By: Emmanuel wise Jipoh

ocal government officials in Grand Bassa County on Saturday, May 27 endorsed the reelection of President George Manneh Weah.

Led by deputy minister for operations at the Ministry of Mines and Energy, Emmanuel O. Sherman, under the campaign "Bassa for Weah" elders, chiefs, traditional leaders, including town, clan, paramount chiefs, and zoes, superintendents, converged at Dekoti Village and endorsed the second term bid of President Weah through a resolution. According to them, their decision is aimed at consolidating gains achieved by the President.

The resolution signed by elders and local leaders of Bassa reads, "We have physically seen and witnessed during the first term of the CDC-led government many tangibles, and this we have come to pledge our commitments to his re-

is still doing his best to develop Liberia.

Mayor Wheajay reiterates that President Weah has done his best in fighting corruption, while bringing in developments, such as roads, schools, hospitals and improving the well-being of ordinary citizens, including peace and national stability.

"We are here to enjoin and endorse our President for his unprecedented development across the country and what we the people of Grand Bassa have benefitted from greatly", he

Also speaking, deputy mines Minister Emmanuel O. Sherman, who heads the "Bassa for Weah" group, said the move to endorse President Weah's second term bid is to encourage the President to continue moving the country forward, despite huge criticism from the public.

According to him, President Weah deserves re-election, considering his laudable achievements.



overwhelmingly to accelerate with support of local authorities. development in their district, the county and Liberia at large.

He said the endorsement is based on the President's track record of achievement, noting that Mr. Weah has done a lot and

Grand Bassa County The Mayor of Wayzohn City, Superintendent Janjay Baikpeh, Edward Wheajay, reading the also a member of the ruling endorsement statement said the establishment, reaffirms his people of Grand Bassa have commitment to making sure resolved to endorse President President Weah grabs one hundred We a h's second term percent of the votes in Grand Bassa

> He maintains that the reelection of President Weah is nonnegotiable, based on the President's laudable achievements. Editing by Jonathan Browne

steps aside for a good leader who will govern the country well by improving the livelihoods of citizens.

incumbent President Weah, for inflicting poverty on Liberians while emphasizing that the people are tired of suffering and need change.

"Our people are tired of suffering, and we need the change and that change can be

made, when all of us get on

board the Rescue Train and don't be left behind, in making sure we deliver this country, she adds.

Sen. Botoe's election was met Senator Kanneh criticizes with stiff resistance in 2020 from the ruling CDC that did everything, including putting traditional masked dances outside to scare her away, but she preserved victory when the National Elections Commission eventually declared her winner of the county's senatorial seat. **Editing by** Jonathan Browne

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## rança

## L'Institut bancaire lance le programme

2023

d'entreprise professionnelle

son nouveau programme d'entreprise pour des efforts visant à renforcer les capacités du secteur bancaire du Libéria.

'Institut bancaire du renforcement des capacités pour Libéria (BIL) lance améliorer les compétences managériales, administratives et professionnelles des les étudiants dans le cadre collaborateurs des secteurs bancaire et financier », a-t-il dit.

> Il s'agissait de lancer ce que l'institut bancaire appelle un



S'exprimant lors du lancement officiel le jeudi 25 mai au siège de l'institution à Warren Street à Monrovia, le directeur général du BIL Richard S. Panton a loué Dieu pour ce qu'il appelle la réalisation d'une étape majeure dans l'histoire de l'institution.

« Notre mandat ici à BIL est

programme d'engagement et de formation du public, appelé BIL Enterprise Program.

Le professeur Panton a affirmé qu'il s'agit d'un programme de formation à deux niveaux qui comprend des cours de certificat professionnel en banque et finance, audit interne et contrôle des prêts et administration du crédit, conformité et gestion des de fournir une formation de risques d'entreprise, gestion des pointe et un soutien au achats et de la chaîne

d'approvisionnement, banque numérique et ressources humaines et gestion des ressources.

Selon lui, quiconque souhaite être admis à suivre les cours de certificat professionnel doit être soit un diplômé universitaire, soit un futur diplômé universitaire, tandis que les cours de développement des affaires sont destinés aux diplômés du secondaire et aux étudiants de niveau supérieur.

« Ces initiatives de renforcement des capacités fourniront l'ensemble des compétences et des connaissances nécessaires pour améliorer les compétences professionnelles et managériales des membres du personnel du secteur bancaire, ainsi que pour donner à ceux qui souhaitent entrer dans le secteur les compétences et les connaissances requises pour une performance efficace afin d'engendrer un service efficace livraison ».

Il a félicité le conseil d'administration, le gouverneur exécutif et la haute direction de la Banque centrale du Libéria (CBL) et de l'Association des banquiers du Libéria pour leur soutien continu au travail de l'Institut.

« Le soutien à l'Institut est une manifestation flagrante de leur désir de renforcer les capacités pour améliorer les performances visant à

CONT'D ON PAGE 09

## Éditorial

## La vice-présidente Jewel Howard **Taylor essuie des critiques**

La vice-présidente Jewel Howard Taylor se remet peut-être encore du déluge de critiques dont elle a été la cible toute la semaine pour avoir incité les jeunes de son parti et de la coalition au pouvoir à prendre d'assaut l'église du sénateur Prince Yormie Johnson à Paynesville.

Des jeunes du NPP vêtus de t-shirts du parti et rejoints par la suite par des jeunes du Congrès pour le Changement Démocratique (CDC), ont interrompu le culte de l'église. Il y a quelques jours, la vice-présidente Howard-Taylor qualifiait le sénateur Johnson de "tueur", l'accusant d'avoir tué des milliers de Libériens pendant la guerre civile brutale du pays. Elle a même menacé d'encourager l'établissement d'un tribunal des crimes de guerre et des crimes économiques au Libéria.

La vice-présidente craint que la liste Joseph Boakai - Jeremiah Koung permette au sénateur Johnson de saisir la présidence libérienne. Le sénateur Johnson était le leader du Front national patriotique indépendant du Libéria, un ancien groupe rebelle, qui a capturé et torturé à mort le président Samuel Kanyon Doe en septembre 1990.

Le sénateur Johnson a ainsi promis de répondre à la viceprésidente depuis son pupitre dans son sermon du dimanche.

Mais immédiatement après l'acte ignoble, l'ancien vice-président Joseph Nyumah Boakai a rapidement condamné la vice-présidente Jewel Taylor, pour avoir déchaîné des voyous sur PYJ, indiquant qu'un tel acte effronté de voyou est sans aucun doute répréhensible, inconcevable, inacceptable et constitue pure provocation. Il a ajouté qu'il est honteux qu'une telle anarchie soit commise au nom de la vice-présidente Jewel Howard Taylor, qui, selon lui, a prêté serment de faire respecter l'État de droit et de respecter les droits constitutionnels d'autrui.

L'ancien législateur du comté de Montserrado, David Kotie, a quant à lui exhorté la vice-présidente Jewel Howard Taylor à cesser de faire des déclarations incendiaires susceptibles de mettre le Libéria en difficulté. Il s'est dit indigné par le fait qu'une personne comme la vice-présidente Taylor, qui occupe un poste élevé au sommet de l'Etat, fasse des déclarations qui menacent la paix du

Pour sa part, le leader politique de la Vision for Liberia Transformation Party (VOLT), le Dr Jeremiah Z. Whapoe, réagissant au comportement désagréable des jeunes des partis politiques, a déclaré que la vice-présidente Howard-Taylor n'a aucune rectitude morale pour tenir et remettre en question la capacité de tout Libérien bien intentionné à mieux vivre ou à mieux se comporter.

« Cette vice-présidente a supporté et bénéficié de la guerre qui a fait beaucoup de morts dans ce pays. Elle a aidé et encouragé la guerre en donnant à son ex-mari, l'ancien président Charles Taylor, des conseils pour tuer des Libériens. Madame Howard-Taylor et l'ancien président Charles Taylor sont responsables de la mort des deux cent cinquante mille Libériens lors de la guerre civile », a ajouté le Dr Whapoe.

Outre les réactions de ces dirigeants, Mme Taylor a également subi des critiques massives de la part du public, car, bien qu'elle soit elle-même chrétienne, elle a fermé les yeux quand les jeunes de la majorité au pouvoir sont allés perturber un culte religieux pour sa défense. Même une aille du NPP de la vice-présidente dirigée par le sénateur James P. Biney du comté de Maryland s'est dite attristée par ce dernier développement qui, selon lui, a détruit tout ce pour quoi ils avaient travaillé au fil des ans pour essayer de rebaptiser le

Nous sommes surpris que la vice-présidente Taylor, une mère et une dirigeante très respectée, ait pu se tenir trop bas au nom de la politicaillerie pour promouvoir le mal. Madame Taylor devrait rassembler le courage de s'élever au-dessus de la politique sale et savoir qu'en tant que vice-présidente en exercice du Libéria, il lui incombe de faire preuve de leadership à tout moment, quel que soit l'intérêt politique. Le Libéria est plus grand que n'importe quel parti politique et le maintien de la paix devrait être primordial.

## **Côte d'Ivoire: Vers un bicéphalisme à** la présidence du PPA-CI de Gbagbo?

FPI, le PPA-CI serait-il menacé d'un autre bicéphalisme naissant à la tête du parti de Laurent Gbagbo?

Un autre "Pascal Affi ministre de la Communication. N'Guessan" pour diviser le PPA-CI de Laurent

Gbagbo?

Mercredi, à la sortie d'un Conseil des ministres, le ministre Amadou Coulibaly, porte-parole du gouvernement, a mis en cause la légalité de l'autorité de Laurent Gbagbo à la tête du Parti des peuples africains - Côte d'Ivoire (PPA-

Un parti politique fondé en 2021 dans le sillage du retour en Côte d'Ivoire de l'ancien président ivoirien alors acquitté par la CPI.

« Je n'ai pas vu les actes créant le parti de Monsieur Laurent Gbagbo et je n'ai pas vu une décision émanant

d'un congrès le désignant

près l'épisode du comme président d'un Laurent Gbagbo debute à la quelconque parti. Vous Haye, Pascal Affi N'Guessan, comprenez donc qu'en l'état des informations qui sont en ma possession, je ne puisse entériner ce que vous dites », a déclaré le

> soudainement le bicéphalisme à au 4e congrès extraordinaire la tête du parti de Gbagbo débuté en 2015.

Au moment où le procès de

président en exercice du FPI, reconnu par la justice ivoirienne, est désigné candidat officiel du Front populaire ivoirien (FPI) lors de Des allégations qui rappellent l'élection d'octobre 2015 lors

CONT'D ON PAGE 09



## t'rançais

## L'Institut bancaire lance engendrer une prestation de personnalisé qui se concentrera

dans les secteurs bancaire et dans le secteur bancaire. financier du Libéria », a-t-il ajouté.

espérer que les connaissances s'inscrivent au programme. acquises à la fin seront utilisées Le BIL est un institut de pour la croissance du pays.

personnel des banques et les financières. diplômés universitaires diverses banques du pays. « Il finance. s'agit de déployer un programme a-t-il précisé.

Liberia, a déclaré que la public. formation est un programme

services efficace et efficiente sur les activités qui se déroulent

Nos matériaux sont à jour ; nous donnons une formation à la Prince Tugbeh, vie réelle qui construira votre vie responsable des ressources professionnelle. Votre objectif humaines de BIL, a pour sa part doit être d'apprendre car il s'agit exprimé sa profonde gratitude d'une formation spécialisée qui aux candidats pour avoir adopté vous responsabilisera », le programme. Il a en outre dit conseille-t-il aux candidats qui

formation en entreprise M. Tugbeh a fait savoir qu'il spécialisé dans la banque, la s'agit d'un programme pilote qui gestion financière des doit durer trois à quatre mois. Il entreprises et d'autres est conçu pour former le disciplines financières et non

Il a été créé en mars 2014 par intéressés, entre autres. Il a la Banque centrale du Libéria et expliqué qu'il est question de l'Association des banquiers du déployer la formation auprès du Libéria pour fournir un public pour améliorer les renforcement des capacités et secteurs des affaires et de la un soutien de formation de finance. Il est adapté aux pointe aux parties prenantes du principaux événements qui se secteur bancaire et d'autres produisent actuellement dans secteurs des entreprises et de la

L'Institut envisage le d'entreprise pour les jeunes qui renforcement des capacités en souhaitent devenir banquiers », offrant un service de qualité aux clients, aux personnes morales, Pendant ce temps, M. aux institutions financières et Abraham B. She, l'un des non financières, aux animateurs et responsable de organisations non l'audit interne à Access Bank gouvernementales et au secteur

## **Côte d'Ivoire: Vers un bicéphalisme** Mais une partie rejette FPI-GOR (Gbagbo ou rien).

l'autorité de la ligne d'Affi L'ex-président a tout Gbagbo dans l'Ouest, leur formation politique stable. propre congrès lors duquel ils parti.

Après s'être peu à peu présidentielle de 2025. éloigné de son ancien mentor, 2023.

qui ne reconnaissait pas la postélectorale 2010-2011. réélection d'Alassane Ouattara conseil national de transition » formation politique. censé remplacer le gouvernement.

au Monde quelques jours avant servant de Pascal Affi le scrutin, il comparait même le N'Guessan. Le pouvoir va encore régime ivoirien à une « pistonner un autre "traitre" pour dictature » et son dirigeant à « diviser le PPA-CI. Hitler ».

d'un côté et les partisans du dénonce "une provocation".

N'Guessan. Ces derniers ont simplement décidé de se lancer organisé le 30 avril 2015 à dans la création d'un nouveau Mama, village natal de Laurent parti afin de disposer d'une

Laurent Gbagbo lance le ont investi l'ancien chef de parti des Peuples Africains l'État comme président du Côte d'Ivoire en octobre 2021, dans la perspective de la

Un scrutin que rien ne Laurent Gbagbo, le chef du FPI a présage rien aujourd'hui qu'il va scellé un accord de partenariat compétir. Car radié de la liste avec le parti au pouvoir en mai électorale depuis 2020 pour une condamnation à 20 ans pour le Porte-parole de l'opposition casse de la BCEAO dans la crise

Pire, Gabriel Guela, un -, le chef du FPI avait participé à fonctionnaire à la retraite, l'époque au boycott du scrutin craint que Laurent Gbagbo ne puis à la proclamation d'un « perde de nouveau la tête de sa

"Le régime est en train de préparer un autre coup contre Dans une interview accordée Gbagbo comme il a fait en se

Le porte-parole du parti, Acquitté par la CPI et de Koné Katinan, dans un entretien retour en Côte d'Ivoire, Laurent accordé lundi à la presse, a Gbagbo veut éviter de contesté l'absence de Laurent s'embourber dans la querelle de Gbagbo de la liste électorale de légalité-légitimité autour du 2023, comme en 2020, malgré FPI, entre Pascal Affi N'Guessan sa nouvelle inscription et

Par Pinelopi Koujianou

## Les sujets tabous de la politique climatique

et l'obstruction du négationnisme des métaux de terres rares dans le pays. climatique ont finalement été réduits au économistes aient présenté des arguments dans un monde de plus en plus fragmenté. solides en faveur des taxes carbone comme Unis).

traitées par une approche multilatérale par une coordination mondiale. Mais comme pour réformes institutionnelles. les taxes sur le carbone, cet argument est mondiale, il y a peu d'espoir que le message passe de sitôt.

coordination de l'action dans plusieurs pays qui ont conduit à la crise climatique actuelle. ayant des ressources financières limitées et privées de sources d'énergie.

63 % du total et aucun de ces principaux la pollution. pollueurs n'est plus un pays à faible revenu. La Chine, la plus pauvre du groupe, représente Pinelopi Koujianou Goldberg, ancienne gouvernement prend des mesures pour l'Université de Yale. accélérer la transition vers l'énergie verte -

EW HAVEN - À présent que les mensonges une stratégie gagnante, compte tenu de l'abondance

silence, la lutte contre le changement L'Inde, le troisième plus grand émetteur, représente climatique est devenue la première priorité actuellement environ 7 % des émissions mondiales mondiale. Mais le temps presse et le Fonds de CO2 et sa taille et sa trajectoire de croissance monétaire international met en garde contre impliquent qu'elle pourrait facilement dépasser la le fait que tout retard supplémentaire dans la Chine en tant que premier pollueur, à moins mise en œuvre de politiques visant à atténuer d'appliquer des politiques climatiques plus fortes. le réchauffement climatique ne fera En fait, lorsqu'il s'agit d'aider les pays en qu'augmenter le coût économique de la développement à décarboner, des progrès transition vers une économie à faibles considérables pourraient être réalisés simplement émissions. Pire encore, il nous manque encore en ciblant l'Inde seule. Le grand avantage de cette une stratégie concrète et pragmatique pour stratégie est qu'elle éviterait la paralysie associée résoudre le problème. Bien que les aux tentatives d'adopter une approche multilatérale

étant la meilleure solution, cette option s'est Cela ne signifie pas que nous devrions éviter les révélée politiquement infaisable, du moins projets d'atténuation ou d'adaptation climatique dans les pays qui représentent certaines des dans d'autres pays. Mais nous n'aurions pas besoin émissions les plus élevées (à savoir les États- d'attendre que tout le monde soit d'accord avant de faire quoi que ce soit. Ceux qui insistent sur une approche multilatérale devraient tirer les leçons de Les commentateurs ont également souligné l'expérience de l'institution multilatérale ultime : que le changement climatique est un problème l'Organisation mondiale du commerce. L'exigence commun impliquant des externalités selon laquelle chaque disposition d'un accord transfrontalières importantes qui doivent être multilatéral bénéficie d'un soutien unanime l'a de plus en plus paralysée, ce qui a poussé à des

tombé dans l'oreille d'un sourd. En outre, Bien sûr, l'Inde n'est pas une cible facile. Elle est compte tenu du climat géopolitique actuel et riche en charbon et n'a que peu d'incitations (au-delà de la fragmentation croissante de l'économie de la santé de ses citoyens) à accélérer la transition vers l'énergie verte. En nous concentrant sur l'Inde, nous devrions employer la carotte, pas le bâton.

Ayant pris l'engagement d'aider les économies Puisque le bâton prend généralement la forme de en développement face au changement pressions pour mettre en œuvre la taxation du climatique, la Banque mondiale se trouve carbone, une telle démarche est vouée à l'échec. limitée par le modèle national qui sous-tend Une taxe serait inefficace, car elle entraînerait une ses opérations de financement. Elle pèse opposition intérieure massive (comme cela a été le sérieusement ses options et considère de cas aux États-Unis). Elle serait également quelle manière elle pourrait coordonner le moralement répréhensible, car il est injuste de financement lié au climat au-delà des demander à un pays à revenu intermédiaire inférieur frontières. Mais même si ces efforts sont bien d'assumer le fardeau de la réduction des émissions intentionnés et conformes à l'esprit du de CO2 lorsque les pays riches (comme les Étatsmultilatéralisme, elle va retarder Unis) n'ont pas fait de même. En outre, même si la inévitablement une action concrète. Le Chine et l'Inde sont aujourd'hui deux des plus grands financement de la Banque mondiale risque pollueurs de la planète, ils n'ont que peu de d'être complètement restructuré et la responsabilité pour les émissions cumulées passées

des intérêts souvent contradictoires semble Reste la stratégie de la carotte, qui prendrait la une tâche impossible. Par exemple, alors que forme d'incitations fiscales ou de subventions pour certaines économies en développement sont soutenir l'énergie verte. Lorsqu'elles sont associées à riches en combustibles fossiles, d'autres sont d'autres politiques, elles peuvent aider les entreprises à s'adapter à des normes environnementales plus exigeantes (comme celles Compte tenu de ces limites, le pragmatisme associées à un programme de plafonnement et impose de concentrer l'attention sur les plus d'échange). Mais de telles politiques sont coûteuses, grands pollueurs. Les émissions mondiales de ce qui signifie que la lutte contre le changement dioxyde de carbone ne sont concentrées que climatique exigera que les pays riches les aident dans une poignée de pays et de régions. La dans leur financement. Que l'Inde devienne ou non la Chine, les États-Unis, l'Union européenne, le nouvelle Chine, elle est encore en mesure de Japon et la Russie représentent collectivement s'assurer qu'elle ne devienne pas le nouveau géant de

environ 30 % de toutes les émissions, ce qui en économiste en chef du Groupe de la Banque fait de loin le plus grand pollueur actuel du *mondiale et rédactrice en chef de American* monde en termes absolus. Mais son *Economic Review*, *enseigne l'économie à* 

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## MORE HEADLINE NEWS

## MORE HEADLINE NEWS

### **VP Taylor launches Roseline STEM hub** President Jewel Howard-Taylor for women, students expressed excitement and joy

By Lincoln G. Peters

he office of Vice traditional stigmatization. President Jewel Mathematics (STEM) hub in beneficiaries of the Jewel

domestic violence and

The program which was held Howard-Taylor over at the YWCA in Congo Town the weekend launched the Friday, 26 May 2023 was graced Roseline K. Toweh Science, by several diplomatic partners, Technology, Engineering, and local academia, and

to the STEM Power Foundation and every collaborator for the support. She thanked them for their

patience and for ensuring that the digital literacy gap is mitigated, especially for females.

"We want to thank the STEM Power family for looking at Liberia," said Madam Howard-Taylor.

"Many people graduate from university, and high school but don't even know what [a] computer looks like," she said further.

"I am excited that we are the first in West Africa to be establishing this today for our future generations, especially females," VP Taylor noted.

She further explained that they are open to various universities and high schools for partnership, where young people, especially females, can acquire practical skills in information technology and other networking courses.

For his part, STEM Power Africa Chief Executive Officer Mr. Edwin Kumfa said they are excited to be implementing the project in Liberia to give Liberian youth the needed skills for the job market.

"I am happy to be at this program implementing this magnificent project to empower ... the young in ICT. We are STEM Power Africa, we believe that every child is a scientist in waiting that has solutions to problems when trained," said Kumfa.



Monrovia.

VP Taylor's office launched girl at a time.

The Roseline K. Toweh STEM passionate female advocate.

and protected from all and business to the public. every form of sexual gender-

Starfish Foundation.

At the Roseline K. Toweh the initiative in collaboration hub, students, most especially with STEM Power Africa, Young females, are going to be Women Christian Association trained, empowered, and (YWCA), and the Jewel Starfish capacitated in Information Foundation for changing lives Technology (ICT) and other and making a difference in one aspects of computer sciences and networking.

The Roseline K. Toweh hub is hub is named in honor of a fully furnished and equipped brilliant, fearless, and with several computers and other networking devices Roseline worked tirelessly installed by a team of ICT to ensure that women and girls professionals from Ethiopia, are empowered and trained STEM Power Africa, and other and their rights are respected local ICT technicians, ready for

Launching the Roseline K. based violence, as well as Toweh STEM hub, Vice

## **Wicked, destructive goats'**

By Lincoln G. Peters

iberia's opposition leader Amb. Joseph ■Nyumah Boakai has likened the ruling Coalition for Democratic Change (CDC) to 'wicked, destructive goats' that he wants to rescue Liberians from.

"Most times I hear people saying in Liberia that where you tie the goat there where it eats. But, the goats here we have, where you tie them, they eat the stick you tie them to, they eat the rope, they eat the grass and even eat the soil and sadly they jump on yourself," Mr. Boakai said.

"That is the kind of goat we have currently. These are the goats we want to free from you. These goats are destructive goats. These goats are very wicked, destructive, selfish, and greedy," he continued.

Boakai's statement over the weekend was in response to Liberian Vice President Jewel Howard-Taylor's questions

former Presidential Candidate Madam MacDella Cooper and Gbarpolu County Senator Madam Botoe Kanneh endorsed that Boakai-Koung 2023 presidential bid.

He said he can publish everything he left behind, saving they have destroyed it. Boakai said it is shocking for the CDC to continue to say it is their time.

"What time will be other people's time now? All the time is our time. This time, it is going to be for the ordinary people. And that's what we are going to do. We don't care what happens," Amb. Boakai

Also speaking, Senator Koung said they are rescuing Liberians and Liberia from the economic backwardness, high taxation, inflation, and the bad governance and interest rate that is killing Liberian businesses.

" Like somebody asked the last time, what are they rescuing? They should be rescuing themselves. We are not rescuing ourselves here oh Madam. We rescuing the children that drugs [are] killing every day,"



Starts from page 11

Liberia of inclusivity. A Liberia through the law. led by honest, innovative, and I have served my country by armed robbery. courageous men and women. providing educational transform our country coupled Liberians through financial aid. with the discipline and will to I have served by equipping the make the hard decisions to government hospital in said. implement the vision.

Liberians I admit, I am not a traditional politician. I have never served in government. Yet, I have served my country. I have served through my law practice, I am the Founder and Managing Partner of CMB, a law firm that I established in 2018, which is one of the fastest-growing and respected providers of legal services in Liberia. I have served as a professor at the Louis Arthur

## Bassa embraces

must have an urgent sense of Grimes School of Law ensuring Buchanan Citv with now! I am not a career that legal scholars are politician and never sought out equipped with a solid to be one. I came to the foundation of legal research have served by providing solar political discourse because I and writing skills so that they lights in the darkest believe in a better Liberia. A too may serve our nation communities in Buchanan so

operational needs when the government itself had failed. I that we minimize rape and

I have served by reviewing Leaders with a vision to assistance to scores of and drafting more Liberian laws and policies than most in government," Cllr. Brumskine

"Rescue Mission." The Boakai-Jeremiah Koung presidential leader said. ticket is dubbed here as the "Rescue Ticket."

to know whom Mr. Bokai and his running mate Senator Koung of Nimba County wanted to rescue after allegedly misapplying and misusing opportunities that should have better the lives of the ordinary Liberians.

But the Unity Party (UP) political leader reminded Madam Taylor that people are suffering under the CDC administration because of a high poverty rate.

"That is what we want to rescue. But, interestingly, we see somebody who has been First Lady, the person served in the Senate for two terms, the person now [is a] vice president,"

Boakai explained further. He used an occasion when

against his much-publicized the Movement for Democracy and Reconciliation (MDR) political

"We have also come to rescue that mother, or parents who cook During a recent political [at] 8 pm in the night for her gathering at the Capitol, Vice children to eat because only [at] President Howard-Taylor sought 8:00 the next day she will have food," Senator Koung told Vice President Howard-Taylor.

> He added that the Boakai-Koung ticket is here to rescue the confusion that Vice President Howard-Taylor and President George Manneh Weah continue to have for the last five years which left Liberia backward.

He indicated that they are here to rescue civil servants, enable them to get rice to their homes and take care of their children.

"These are the people we want to rescue. But, understand that there are too many things to rescue because [there is] nothing here so we have to rescue the country," Senator Koung concluded.

Mr. Freeman pointed out that Liberia's

problem is not coming together and

forming opposition collaborations, rather,

it's about having that person who has a

clear vision about the transformation of

opposition to come together. But the issue

of coming together is not Liberia's problem.

The CPP came together and got about

twelve seats in the Senate which adds to

the already number in the legislature. Has

that done anything for the Liberian people,

of course not. Coming together is not the

people who want to become president

should have a clear vision to transform Liberia. We have one man that transform,

Ghana, Ivory Coast, Singapore, and many

electorates who have very limited

knowledge and the media who have the

knowledge, capacity and opportunity to

research and inform the public for better

He urged Journalists, especially

electronic media to use their various

platforms and discuss what he describes as

want state power under examination to

enable the voters to make the best choice.

enable the citizens to choose which

direction to go because it's easy to be

deceived mostly in a society where people

Mr. Freeman believes that this will

the real issues" affecting the Liberian people and bring all the politicians that

Mr. Freeman noted that the upcoming October polls have two parties -the

other countries" Mr. Freeman lamented.

What Liberia needs is that many of the

"Perhaps, it's a good thing for the

Liberia and the well-being of Liberians.

## **Issa embraces Charl** argued.

By Lewis Teh

Saturday, May 27, lead the Collaborating the Fairgrounds.

Liberia Solidarity polls. he people of Movement, and the African Bassa land on Creative Fashion Group.

embraced Cllr. Charlyne banners and chanted up to the task, and he has Brumskine, the daughter slogans of support and explicit confidence in her of late Cllr. Charles allegiance to the leadership ability. Brumskine, founder of Cummings/ Brumskine Liberty Party (LP) as ticket as they marched to the ticket as a political running mate to Mr. from Monrovia junction novice but with vast legal Alexander Cummings to through Tubman Street to experience and integrity.

Angels, CPP USA Chapter, during the October 10

Cummings told supporters that his choice The various groups held of Vice Standard Bearer is

Cllr. Brumskine comes

During her acceptance



Political Parties ticket polls in October.

Charlyne Brumskine as she mate. was being announced as late father.

Fairgrounds hosting the the swore of a leader. Cllr. Brumskine.

Margibi, Rivercess, and ticket. Grand Bassa Counties who

of CPP auxiliaries and civil Charlyne were ready for society groups including the task ahead. the Paco Movement for Real Change, Muslims Executive said together United for Better Liberia, with Charlyne they will best, and brightest. We Changes of Women transform Liberia once

ahead of the 2023 general began with a 12-member rubbished claims that her Elder Council of Grand lack of experience in In a county with no Bassa welcoming and working in government is well-defined political appreciating Mr. Cummings not a prerequisite for her allegiance, as things for his previous visits and selection. stand, the massive turned selection of one of their

vice running mate to Mr. pair during a brief had any experience Cummings signaled an traditional ceremony as working in government, emerging stronghold for they pledged their support has served her country in the young Cllr. Brumskine and loyalty to the CPP different capacities which stepped in the shoes of her ticket. The elders also are enough to qualify her presented a symbolic as the right choice for the The supporters who cutlass to former Grand vice standard bearership. came in their numbers Bassa Senator Gbezhongar from districts within Grand Findley for onward there are many of you who Bassa and its surroundings presentation to Mr. have questioned whether it gathered at Buchanan City Cummings representing was the right time to

pavilion, to witness the In making the onward Bearer post in the nascent official endorsement of presentation, the former stage of my political Foreign Minister who sojourn. Also in their numbers resigned from the George expressed strong views were several traditional Weah administration about me staying with the cultural and mask dancers pledged his support to the representative bid and or from Grand Cape Mount, Cummings/ Brumskine as some of you put

entertained thousands of Brumskine as his vice revolution was born out of partisans, supporters, standard bearer, Mr. perfect timing, history was sympathizers and well- Cummings informed CPP never made by those who wishers with folk songs and partisans that the CPP followed conventional ticket was now complete formulas of how life should There were also dozens and that both he and progress.

The former Coca-Cola Organization, Charlyne's given the opportunity

The official program speech, Cllr. Brumskine

She admitted though out in show of support for daughters as his running that she is not a traditional politician but boasted that They later gowned the even though she has not

"My fellow Liberians, accept a Vice Standard Many of you "starting" at the bottom. Unveiling Cllr. To you, I say that no

Societies in decline do not have the luxury to "wait your turn". We must quickly grab the willing,

CONT'D ON PAGE 10

Starts from back page

real issue.

decisions making.

are confused and hungry.

## n the redeemer"

Mr. Freeman added that educating citizens not just about their responsibility and rights to vote but about issues that they should be voting for will enable them to prevent leadership disasters and improve their

"That is while we take advantage of every opportunity that we have to ensure that all those who are voting, I tell the real issues about what this election is about. This will guide them in their decision-making process" Mr. Freeman stated.

Mr. Freeman termed as false and misleading information that he and his party is contemplating endorsing or collaborating with a political party in the upcoming Election.

" To your question about information that we are joining a political party, I want to ask, are you a CIA or do you work with the FBI? Clearly, we are not doing that and not thinking in such direction. I will be on the ballot this election. Because of that, I have announced my vice running mate for the election at our convention.

Mr. Freeman noted that those that are endorsing and forming collaboration are people and political institutions that don't understand what the real issues are.

He alleged that Liberia is really hurting under the leadership of President George M. Weah and his CDC government because poverty and economic development are still at a low pace.



#### PRESS RELEASE

Our Esteemed Shareholders,

Please be informed that the Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the Shareholders of the Liberian Bank for Development and Investment (LBDI), shall reconvene on Tuesday, May 30, 2023, at 9:30 A.M.

The AGM shall be held at the CORINA HOTEL, located on Tubman Boulevard, Sinkor, Monrovia. You may attend in person or by proxy, the proxy form will be forwarded to you via email. Below is the Agenda for the meeting for ease of reference.

#### AGENDA

- > Invocation
- Approval of Agenda
- ➤ Approval of Minutes No. M-SH-60-03-2022
- Matters Arising from the Minutes
- Presentation of 2022 Audited Accounts
- Presentation of 2022 Annual Report
- Ratification of the Appointment of the External Auditors
- Elections of the Board of Directors
- ▶ Any Other Business ▶ Adjournment

Documents for the said meeting can be picked up from the Office of the Corporate Secretary of the Bank. For further information/clarity, kindly contact the Corporate Secretary Office via cell numbers: +231886568968/ +231886566840 or email: regina.elliott@lbdi.net/geraldine.gbai@lbdi.net.

Signed: Regina T. Elliott (Cllr.) CORPORATE SECRETARY

### HEAD OFFICE

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## "I'm the redeemer"

## **MPC Simeon Freeman tells Liberian**

By Lincoln G. Peters

Businessman turned politician, Mr. Simeon Freeman, has described himself as the "redeemer", saying he has the clear-cut vision and solution

Freeman added that he is the only presidential aspirant that is discussing the real issues affecting the lives of Liberians and recommending economic policies, programs and solutions to defeat poverty and

National Congress and CPP standard bearer Alexander B. Cummings describing their ticket as "Fixer 1&2".

"I am seeing myself as the redeemer because I am coming up with clear solutions for our people and country. I am the redeemer because I know the real issues. I am discussing them and providing solutions to them instead of the normal thing that other opposition doing just attacking unnecessarily and refusing to deal with the real issues and explaining to Liberians the way forward," Mr. Freeman noted.

Mr. Freeman slammed other opposition politicians for not discussing the real issues and challenges affecting ordinary people when interacting with voters. Instead, they just go into attack mode.

"I am discussing how we can solve the problem and how we can change the system that is killing our people. If you listen to me, I have provided solutions to our age-old problem from an economic perspective, business and as well as foreign relations perspective," Mr. Freeman

➤ CONT'D ON PAGE 11



to Liberia's age-old problems.

Mr. Freeman explained that his vision has the capacity to transform Liberia and make Liberians selfsufficient and economically independent.

Speaking in an interview with journalists over the weekend in Gardnerville, Mr.

economic backwardness.

The Movement for Progressive Change (MPC) standard bearer comments were in response to a question on his thoughts about Unity Party Joseph Nyumah Boakai and Senator Jeremiah Koung branding themselves as "Rescue 1&2" while Alternative

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