



**UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME
JOB DESCRIPTION**

I. Position Information

Job Title:	Consultancy to review and identify all laws and provisions to be amended to implement sustainable decentralization Reform in Liberia
Contract Type:	Individual Contract (IC) – National
Reports to:	Team Leader of the Inclusive Governance Pillar
Duty Station:	Monrovia, Liberia
Duration of Contract:	35 working days, beginning May 3rd – June 30th, 2021.

II. Organisational Context

The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) has been a key supporter of decentralization reforms in Liberia. Through partnership and coordination, the UNDP championed the establishment of the Liberia Decentralization Support Program in 2013 to give full effect to the implementation of the National Policy on Decentralization & Local Governance.

Decentralization has been a core reform objective of the Liberian Government over the past several years. The government's interest in this reform is premised on Liberia's perennial problem of over centralization of public administration which undermined citizen's participation and inclusion in national decision making and access to basic social services and economic opportunities for the majority of Liberians. Throughout the implementation of the LDSP programme, the government has exemplified the political effrontery by taken key decisions that match its decentralization commitments. In 2012, a National Policy on Decentralization and Local Governance was launched as a means of establishing a framework for effective and efficient service delivery at the sub- national level, enhancing participatory decision making to engender peace-building and national reconciliation as well as strengthening local planning, monitoring, and management capacity.

Since the establishment of the LDSP, a lot has been achieved in decentralization reforms. In the first phase of the program, there were extensive organization of dialogues and debates on decentralization across counties with citizens, Ministries, Agencies and Commissions (MACs) and civil society organizations; facilitation of a de-concentration platform as a quick win strategy to respond to the needs of citizens and bringing services closer to them; strengthening of capacity and competencies of local government through mentoring, coaching and trainings; establishment of County Service Centers across the country and the passage of the Local Government Act (LGA), amongst others.

Inevitably, phase II of LDSP builds upon the gains made by LDSP phase one and focus more broadly on interventions geared toward ensuring that citizens are duly informed about the Local Government Act (LGA) and the benefits thereof, facilitating the implementation of the LGA, strengthening County Service Centers capacity to deliver services effectively and efficiently at the sub-national levels while engendering the crafting of legislations and policies to sustain decentralization. In regard to steps in addressing the later, resources have been allocated to conduct detailed legal analysis of all relevant laws that could potentially impede the full implementation of the Local Government Act (LGA). Once identified, particular areas in the laws

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that conflict with or impede the LGA implementation will be amended for the smooth actualization of decentralization.

Hence, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) is seeking to contract the services of a national legal consultant to undertake the process of reviewing laws (Revenue Code of Liberia, Local Government Act of 2018, Public Finance Management Law of 2009, 1986 Constitution of Liberia, Executive Law of 1972 etc.) and recommending areas for amendment. The consultant will work under the supervision of the Team Leader of the Inclusive Governance Pillar in regular consultations with the Governance Commission (GC) and the Ministry of Internal Affairs (MIA). The consultant will also be required to engage with the Law Reform Commission, Liberia National Bar Association and other stakeholders in the review, analysis, consultation and validation process.

III. Scope of Work

Under the overall supervision of the Deputy Resident Representative for Programme and day to day supervision of the Team Leader of the Inclusive Governance Pillar and in close consultation with MIA and GC, the consultant will:

- Conduct desk reviews on all relevant laws (Revenue Code of Liberia, Local Government Act of 2018, Public Finance Management Law of 2009, 1986 Constitution of Liberia, Executive Law of 1972 etc.) and regulations to determine potential overlaps with the LGA.
- Liaise with the Law Reform Commission, Ministry of Internal Affairs, and Governance Commission to solicit inputs to the legal analysis.
- Identify all the areas of potential conflicts with the Local Government Act with appropriate citations.
- Propose corresponding amendment recommendations for each of the identified areas in the Local Government Act.
- Organize a validation meeting with key stakeholders to present findings for feedback.

IV. Deliverables

Deliverables	Days
Develop and submit inception report which contains methodology	4
Conduct desk review of relevant laws (Revenue Code of Liberia, Local Government Act of 2018, Public Finance Management Law of 2009, 1986 Constitution of Liberia, Executive Law of 1972 etc.) and regulations to determine potential overlaps with the LG	8
Hold consultations with key stakeholders including the Law Reform Commission, Ministry of Internal Affairs, Governance Commission, Liberia National Bar Association, CSOs amongst others to solicit inputs to the review process.	8
Prepare draft review report	5
Organize a validation meeting with key stakeholders to present the draft report for review and inputs	2
Prepare and submit final report to UNDP	8

V. Impact of Results

In order for decentralization to be sustained, it must be anchored by corresponding legislations that enhance the capacities of local government structures. These legislations must support appropriate resource transfers to sub-national structures as well as complement the efficacy of the Local Government Act, rather than running parallel to its legal precept. As it stands, there is limited information on available laws and regulations that are in conflict with the LGA. It is in this regard that UNDP is soliciting consultancy services to determine areas in current laws and regulations that would potentially derail the actualization of decentralization in Liberia.

A comprehensive list of specific areas in these legislations will set the basis for the preparation of legislative amendments aimed at paving the way for decentralization to flourish and be sustained.

VI. Recruitment Qualifications

Education:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Master's degree in law. A PhD in Law will be an added advantage.• 10 years of progress law practice in Liberia in lieu of the master's degree in law will suffice
Experience:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• A qualified Lawyer with at least 10 years post-qualification experience in analysis and education.• At least 7 years legislative drafting experience.• Experience in drafting legislations will be an added advantage.• Experience in engaging a cross-section of stakeholders in public and private sectors.• Demonstrated understanding of the LGA • Extensive experience of working with legal institutions as well as government institutions and civil society organisations. • Must be a license lawyer to practice law in Liberia.
Language Requirements:	Fluency in English, including excellent writing and drafting skills.

James Monibah
DRR-p a.i.

James Monibah

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14-Apr-2021

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