



The Director-General



Secretary General

Gender Action Plan III – 2021-2025 Country Level Implementation Plan – CLIP Liberia

1. Context for EU action gender equality and women’s empowerment in the country

Liberia has gradually evolved towards peace and stability since the end of the civil war in 2003, with the peaceful elections in 2017 representing a major milestone for democracy in the country. However, despite considerable rebuilding efforts, Liberia remains socioeconomically and politically fragile with high levels of poverty and social exclusion, limited access to basic services and infrastructure, and deep institutional fragility. Liberian women and girls are particularly vulnerable with less access to education, health care services, justice, ownership of assets, as well as to the formal economy. Liberia’s history of violent conflict as well as recent crises have further exacerbated the high levels of unemployment, school dropout rates, and economic insecurity, thus contributing to negative forms of masculinities that increase the prevalence of sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV).¹ The 2002 World Health Organization World Report on Sexual Violence estimated that between 61% and 77% of women and girls in Liberia were raped during the war.²

Liberia is ranked 164th out of 170 countries in the UNDP Gender Inequality Index of 2021. Its Human Development Index (HDI) for women and girls is 0.447, lagging behind that of men and boys, which was 0.513.³ With strong patriarchal social norms and a socially accepting environment of violence against women and girls (VAWG) and marginalised groups, the prevalence of SGBV remains alarmingly high in Liberia.

SGBV continues to be among the most significant acts of violence in the country, and a majority of the victims are women and children. According to the 2019-2020 Liberia Demographic and Health Survey, 60% of women aged 15-49 have experienced physical violence and 9% have experienced sexual violence. Less than half (42%) of women who have experienced physical or sexual violence have ever sought help.⁴ As a consequence, the levels of SGBV have

¹ UN Women. (2019). The challenge of unlearning: a study of gender norms and masculinities in Liberia.

² UNDP (2023). Sexual violence in Liberia: End the Silent Epidemic. Accessed from <https://www.undp.org/liberia/blog/sexual-violence-liberia-end-silent-epidemic> on 1 Dec 2023

³ UNDP (2022). Human development report 2021/2022

⁴ USAID (2022). Gender Equality and Social Inclusion. Foundational Rights and access to public services for all Liberians.

contributed to destabilising peace and stability, and hamper efforts to enhance human rights and human development. The levels of impunity are high in Liberia, particularly for cases of SGBV and violence on the basis of sexual orientation and gender identity.

According to the Ministry of Gender, Children and Social Protection (MoGSP), sexual violence cases reported in 2019 were as high as 2,708 and 2240 cases in 2020. In the same vein, the MoGSP's annual statistical report on gender-based violence (GBV) also indicated some 1,975 cases were reported in 2022, of which 73.7% were rape, sexual assault, and other forms of sexual violations.⁵ The number of SGBV cases not being reported is still high, due to a lack of trust in the security and justice systems, high levels of impunity, and continued stigma –although the latter has improved considerably in recent years as a result of advocacy efforts and awareness-raising campaigns with support from, among other, the EU–UN Liberia Spotlight Initiative programme.

At the national level, Liberia has developed its national gender policy (2018-2022) and has passed legislations intending to fight GBV and address gender inequality. These include the Rape Act (2005)-which outlaws gang rape and stipulates life-term sentences for aggressive forms of rape; the Domestic Violence Act (2019); the Inheritance Act of 1998 (which specifies Equal Rights in marriage and inheritance under Customary and Statutory Laws; and the Anti-Human Trafficking Act of 2005, prohibiting trafficking in persons.⁶

In order to address SGBV and promote women's rights, the government has also adopted action plans that include the 'National Action Plan for the Prevention and Management of Gender-Based Violence in Liberia' (2018-2023) and the 'National Action Plan on Women, Peace and Security' (2019-2023). Several other measures were also taken to curb SGBV and enable speedy handling of SGBV cases including the establishment of a specialised court, Criminal Court E in some counties,⁷ as well as the introduction of a specialised unit, a Women and Children Protection Section (WACPS) at the Liberia National Police (LNP) in 2009. Further, the setting up of one-stop centers,⁸ for multisectoral and coordinated services for survivors of violence, and the establishment of safe homes for effective protection and rehabilitation of survivors of SGBV were some of the strides made. However, these efforts have proven insufficient, with continued institutional challenges, as well as a lack of capacities and resources to efficiently reinforce response services.

In the past decade, several other actions have been taken to improve capacities and strengthen efforts to respond to the above-mentioned challenges, such as increased efforts to utilise gender-responsive planning and budgeting (GRPB) in the allocation of resources into the public financial management system and the national budget. The GRPB has been piloted since 2019 and the institutions selected for the piloting are the Ministry of Health, Ministry of Agriculture (MoA), Ministry of Education, Ministry of Internal Affairs, Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Gender, Children and Social Protection, and Institute of Statistics and Geo-Information.⁹

⁵ UNDP (2023). Sexual violence in Liberia: End the Silent Epidemic. Accessed from <https://www.undp.org/liberia/blog/sexual-violence-liberia-end-silent-epidemic> on 1 Dec 2023

⁶ RoL & MoGD (2009). Liberia national gender policy. (2010-2015).

⁷ Montserrado, Nimba, and Bong.

⁸ Previously supported by the Joint program on SGBV and currently by Spotlight.

⁹ Interview with the Ministry of finance in 2023.

However, the need to anchor the initiative with a national policy on gender-responsive planning and budgeting was highlighted to mandate institutions implement GRPB.¹⁰

That said, harmful traditional practices such as child marriage and female genital mutilation (FGM) remain a cause for serious concern in Liberia. The proportion of women aged 20-24 who were married or in a union before the age of 18 is 35.9%, of which 8.8% were married or in a union before the age of 15.¹¹ 44.4 % of women aged between 15 and 49 are estimated to have undergone FGM, with the prevalence of the practice standing at 72% in rural Liberia.¹² The rate of teenage pregnancy, around 30%, is one of the highest in the world, as is the maternal mortality ratio, with 661 deaths per 100,000 live births according to UN 2020 data.

There is presently no legal framework criminalising FGM in Liberia, which is one of the three West African countries that do not have a law criminalizing FGM despite having signed and ratified regional and international human rights instruments condemning the practice as a human rights violation, such as the Maputo Protocol.¹³ The Executive Order 92, banning FGM of girls below 18 or of non-consenting adults, expired in January 2019, and it has, to date, not been renewed. In August 2019, President Weah signed into law the Domestic Violence Act (DVA), recognising domestic violence as a serious crime against the individual and society. There were several attempts to introduce FGM in the DVA but without success, and ultimately the FGM clause had to be removed in order to approve the DVA. In 2015 the Government of Liberia (GoL) accepted all recommendations in the Universal Periodic Review (UPR) referring to FGM, including those banning FGM, while in the 2020 UPR, the GoL did not accept 41 recommendations on FGM, including 33 to ban FGM.

However, the *Liberia Spotlight Initiative*, an EU-UN partnership to eliminate all forms of violence against women and girls implemented since 2019, has made significant strides in breaking the taboo on FGM, leading to a 3-year country-wide suspension of the practice in February 2022 and to the total ban of the practice in Montserrado County in February 2023 (followed by Grand Cape Mount, Bong and Nimba). These gains should be anchored by formal FGM legislation as a way of sustaining the efforts and ensuring accountability.

Women's political representation continues to be notably low. Even though after the civil war Liberia elected the first female president of an African country, Mme Ellen Johnson Sirleaf, data from 2014 indicate less participation of women in electoral processes, with a 10% gap in voter registration, 14% gap in voting, and 17% gap in participation in campaign activities.¹⁴ In the 2017 election women represented only 16% of all candidates, and only 9 were elected to fill the 73 seats in the House of Representatives. Similarly, in the mid-term 2020 election, again there were only 16% of female candidates and only 2 were elected to fill 15 seats in the Senate. As of February 2021, only 11% of seats in parliament were held by women.¹⁵ In the October 2023 election, the numerical representation of women in the legislation has not shown any

¹⁰ Interview with the Director of Budget, Policy and coordination, Ministry of Finance

¹¹ UN Women. Women count. Accessed from <https://data.unwomen.org/country/liberia> on 5 March 2023

¹² <https://liberia.unfpa.org/en/topics/gender-based-violence-19>

¹³ Equality now. FGM in Liberia. Accessed from https://www.equalitynow.org/learn_more_fgm_liberia/

¹⁴ UN Women (2021). Liberia Gender Equality Profile. Issue Paper

¹⁵ UN Women. Accessed from <https://data.unwomen.org/country/liberia> on March 5, 2023

improvement, it remained 10.7%, slightly less than the previous election in 2017. Although a 30% gender quota was included as part of the electoral reform bill, and received approval from both houses in Liberia, it failed to be enacted due to a lack of Executive Approval.¹⁶

On a positive note though, two of the counties — Grand Cape Mount and Grand Gedeh — had a historic result for women. Grand Cape Mount recorded a historic win for women with 3 women out of 4 legislators elected. It should be noted that the county has never had a female representative, while they had previously had a female Senator. Grand Gedeh also elected a woman representative for the first time in the history of that county. Previously, there had been neither a woman representative nor a senator. Overall, women lack opportunities and participation in political leadership, management and decision-making positions at all levels of society.

Besides the continued institutional challenges and lack of technical capacities, additional challenges lie in the lack of sufficiently strong political will and commitment towards Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment (GEWE). The removal of the FGM clause from the DVA, the non-acceptance of the 2020 UPR recommendations on FGM, the lack of political will to pass the proposed legislation and criminalise FGM, as well as the resistance towards introducing a gender quota to increase women's political participation and representation¹⁷ are some telling examples in this regard.

Building up on the Swedish-funded *SGBV Joint Programme*, the five year EU-UN partnership programme *Liberia Spotlight Initiative* has, since its start in 2019, been reinforcing efforts to reduce the prevalence of SGBV and harmful practises (HPs) and increase access to sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR). The Liberia Spotlight Initiative (LSI) has been implemented by five UN Agencies¹⁸ in partnership with six line ministries¹⁹ with the MoGCSP in the lead, in collaboration with several stakeholders including the LNP WACPS, the SGBV Crimes Unit, civil society actors and women's groups as well as the National Council of Chief and Elders (NACCEL). The LSI has been implemented in five²⁰ of the fifteen Liberian counties, at the community, county and national levels, with alternative livelihood activities expanded to all remaining FGM-practising counties in Phase II.

➤ The Country Gender Equality Profile (CGEP) for Liberia and the CLIP

The Gender Country Profile, in Liberia under the denomination of the Country Gender Equality Profile (CGEP), has been developed together with the first draft of the CLIP. The development of the CGEP for Liberia derives from an initiative initiated in 2020 by the MoGCSP, ultimately rolled out in 2021 as a multi-donor initiative in partnership with core actors working on GEWE

¹⁶ Data from UN Women, 2023

¹⁷ A compulsory 30% gender quota on candidate lists and the leadership of parties and coalitions, included in an electoral reform bill, was removed from the bill during discussions at the Legislature. The EU, EU MS and other partners have strongly called on the Legislature and Executive to support this amendment, which represents a unique opportunity to address the longstanding issue of political underrepresentation of Liberian women.

¹⁸ UN Women, UNFPA, UNDP, UNICEF, OHCHR.

¹⁹ MoGCSP, MIA; MoE, MoH, MoFDP, MoJ.

²⁰ Montserrado, Grand Cape Mount, Grand Gedeh, Lofa, Nimba.

in Liberia, namely UN Women, Sweden, African Development Bank (AfDB) and the EU. The EU has contributed to this multi-donor initiative via a budget reallocation from the Liberia Spotlight Initiative (LSI) with all five implementing UN Agencies in agreement with the reallocation of funds to support the development of the CGEP.

The CGEP is partially made on assessments from an extensive desk review of reports as well as on the basis of consultations, focus groups and semi-structured interviews with governmental officials, civil society and women's organisations, traditional chiefs and elders, private sector representatives and the international community.

The original CLIP was developed on the basis of preliminary analysis and drafts of the CGEP, in addition to analysis made in the *Human Rights and Democracy Country Strategy (HRDCS) 2021-2024*, the current draft of the *CSO Roadmap beyond 2020*, and on lessons learnt from former and/or ongoing development initiatives, such as the Liberia Spotlight Initiative. While the EUD and EU Member States (MS) represented in Liberia – France, Germany, Ireland and Sweden – recognise the importance of joint approaches, joint programming has previously not been feasible. Coordination and joint efforts have however increased in recent years, including in the GEWE area of engagement. Further emphasis on joint and coordinated response among EU actors will be intensified, as outlined further below in the CLIP.

2. Selected thematic areas of engagement and objectives

The Multiannual Indicative Programme (MIP) for Liberia 2021-2027 is in line with the GoL's development strategy (2019-2023), the "Pro-poor Agenda for Prosperity and Development" (PAPD). Being aligned with both the PAPD and the political and strategic priorities set out by the EU, the MIP for Liberia focuses in particular on two priorities: the Green Deal, and Jobs and Growth. In this vein, the Team Europe Initiative's (TEIs) identified for Liberia - i) Safe and Sustainable Food Systems and ii) Forestry and Biodiversity, indicatively estimated to absorb 70% of the financial envelope - will merge the aspirations set out in both the PAPD and the EU strategic priorities.

By increasing investments in the agricultural, fishery and forestry sectors, a boost to Liberia's economy and job creation opportunities across sectors is foreseen, particularly for Liberia's women and youth. The agricultural sector in Liberia employs almost 70% of the population, a majority of which are women and youth. While the selected two TEIs do not target gender equality as a (G2) 'principal objective', focus on gender equality as a significant (G1) marker is envisioned throughout the implementation of the selected priority areas by promoting gender equality and strengthening women's economic inclusion and empowerment in these sectors; notably by enabling equal opportunities, equal access to employment, such as Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET), supporting women economic entrepreneurship and women-led businesses, addressing patriarchal social norms within household and labour markets, and addressing gender equality through trade policy. The already vital role women have in the agricultural and fishery value chain in Liberia is addressed in the MIP. Cash crops can for instance have the potential of creating additional income streams for subsistence farmers

– a majority of whom are women – and allow for more opportunities for value addition and job creation, particularly for women and youth. The MIP likewise foresees to create opportunities for access to finance for women and youth, who currently have few possibilities to access – the already limited – financial sector. The MIP foresees that improved governance and adequate law enforcement in the forest and agriculture sectors could hinder further exploitation of Liberia’s forests and avoid unsustainable agricultural practises with the potential to facilitate green growth and enhance livelihoods. The inclusion of civil society and women’s participation and representation in these processes will be key.

The identified TEIs and priority areas of engagement will be complemented with continued support – beyond the Liberia Spotlight Initiative – with a **G2 action focusing on the prevention of, and response to, sexual and gender-based violence**. Further details on the G2 action are presented in the following section of the CLIP. In addition, as identified in the MIP, actions for Liberia will also continue to focus on institutional building and promotion of transparent and accountable decision-making processes through continued support in preparing and realising peaceful elections (General Elections were held in October/November 2023 and support to women’s political participation is ongoing under our LESP programme), and by highlighting gender responsiveness in public financial management (PFM) systems as well as in potential budget support operations. Furthermore, building upon previous interventions in support to civil society and women’s groups, the MIP also foresees to further enhance capacities and strengthen CSOs participation in policy dialogues and visibility in the development process.

While all the six thematic areas of engagement on gender equality and women’s empowerment,²¹ as set out in the Joint Communication on the GAP III, will continue to be highly important and relevant areas of engagement in the Liberian context, there are particularly **three identified thematic areas** that will be **more in focus in the forthcoming programming** and political dialogues of the EUD and EU MS in Liberia. These are the following:

- **Ensuring freedom from all forms of gender-based violence**: building up on the SGBV Joint Programme and the Spotlight Initiative programme, the EU will continue to support efforts aimed at addressing the high levels of SGBV in Liberia, working both on **prevention, protection, and on response services**. Continued efforts will also be put on the social, economic and cultural fronts, particularly at community levels, in order to address and make headway in the fight against FGM and other forms of gender based violence.
- **Strengthening economic and social rights and empowering girls and women**: in keeping with the two priorities set out in the TEIs, the EU will continue to focus on promoting and enabling equal opportunities and access to employment (such as TVET), and support inclusive value chains, women’s entrepreneurship, economic empowerment, access to finance and equal inclusion in society. Moreover, the EU

²¹ The six thematic areas of engagement on GEWE: i) ensuring freedom from all forms of gender-based violence; ii) promoting sexual and reproductive health and rights; iii) strengthening economic and social rights and empowering girls and women; iv) advancing equal participation and leadership; v) integrating the women, peace and security agenda; vi) addressing the challenges and harnessing the opportunities offered by the green transition and digital transformations

will also support efforts aimed at addressing the gender gaps in cooperatives, companies as well as public-private dialogue platforms.

- Advancing equal participation and leadership: women's representation in public institutions and in decision-making processes remains very low. The EU will support efforts aimed at enhancing women's political representation, during and beyond the General Elections in 2023. In keeping with programming efforts, the EUD and EU MS will continue to highlight the need for an enforceable 30% gender quota on candidate listings and the leadership of political parties and coalitions. Alongside the address on enhancing women's political representation, focus will also be put on the prevention of violence against women in elections (VAWIE) to enable women to fully exercise their political rights and political participation.

3. Targeted action(s) supporting gender equality and women's empowerment

In accordance to targets set out in GAP III, the MIP for Liberia foresees at least one spending target with gender equality as principal objective (G2 action). While expected outcomes and results are not yet defined until the end of GAP III implementation in 2025, the indicative outlook builds upon previous and current interventions. As part of MIP allocations, the EUD will continue to support parts of Liberia Spotlight Initiative activities beyond the end of LSI (implementation ends in 2023) with a Spotlight 2.0 action (total allocation of EUR 13 million) foreseen to start in 2024. As the EUD, some EU MS are currently also in their programming phase. Ireland, for instance, is determining the new strategic outcomes and accompanying actions that will guide 2024-28, while it is committed to G2 actions supporting women's political participation, women human rights defenders, provision of sexual and reproductive health services, and prevention of SGBV to a total of c. EUR 1.5 million in 2023-2024. It will be important to ensure coordination and synergies throughout these processes, particularly when setting the specific objectives and expected results, geographical outreach as well as stakeholder engagements in these new actions to avoid duplications. Recently, the World Bank has also announced its intention to launch a women's empowerment programme of USD 44.6 million (USD 26.8 M loans - USD 17.8 M: grants) with a partial focus on social norms change and intimate partner violence (IPV). The programme is scheduled to start in 2024 and will be implemented by the MGCSP via a consortium of (I)NGOs (yet to be selected to this date).

The Liberia Spotlight Initiative 2.0 is anticipated to have a life span of four years, 2024 to 2027, and will build on the EU's recent investment in LSI by addressing the gaps in implementation and consolidating the results. The forthcoming G2 action will focus on the prevention, protection, and response to SGBV, as well as on enhanced access to SRHR, compounded with government institutional support. Women's rights organisations and civil society are expected to play an important role in the implementation and ownership of these actions. More specifically, the upcoming G2 action will address:

➤ Ensuring freedom from all forms of sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV)

Continued support to address the high rates of SGBV and harmful practises, particularly FGM and child marriage, is essential. Interventions will focus on both the prevention, protection, and response aspects of SGBV as well as institutional capacity building. This action is well interlinked to objectives set out in the HRDCS 2021-2024.

The Liberia Spotlight Initiative focused to a large extent on the prevention side of SGBV, via engagements and interactive dialogues to address and raise awareness on patriarchal social norms and behaviours. These efforts are principally done at the community level, through engagements with community leaders, traditional chiefs and elders, and practitioners of FGM. To some extent, the LSI also provided skills trainings and alternative sources of livelihoods to practitioners of harmful traditional customs and supported integrated services at hospitals and One-Stop Centres in order to provide coordinated, holistic, and integrated services. Continued support is envisioned to promote gender-equitable social norms in communities, particularly with male community members, and with traditional leaders and practitioners with an expansion of outreach beyond the current five LSI counties. Focus should also include addressing social norms and gender stereotypes at household levels and in schools. A positive impact from the LSI hitherto has for instance been the change in education curricula promoting gender equality. Additionally, EU MS such as Sweden are implementing actions addressing patriarchal social norms via media and cultural activities.

In view of the capacity gap in the security and justice systems, support is envisaged to strengthen access to justice and the rule of law for survivors as well as perpetrators. More specifically, this support seek to decentralize specialized SGBV courts, strengthen the capacities and resources of the SGBV Crimes Unit, Court E, Judges and Magistrates and CSOs to harmonize court proceedings and speed up the adjudication of SGBV cases in a legal time-frame, the latter also to avoid prolonged pre-trial detention, which is of major concern in Liberia. Since 2012, safe homes have been operating in Liberia and through LSI support, the existing five safe homes were refurbished, although they remain inadequate for the magnitude of the problem and the rising demand. The support therefore seeks to expand the services to other counties. It is also important to provide livelihood pathways to survivors once at the safe home/or after. EU TVET and agriculture training could provide survivors with skills that may lead them to gainful employment.

➤ Promoting sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR)

Building on previous and ongoing interventions on SRHR, support in this sector is foreseen throughout the GAP III implementation. While Swedish funded interventions in this area go up until 2024, canalised via UNFPA, with focus on the southeast counties, France has recently launched a programme focused on maternal and child health and SRHR. In view of the alarmingly high teenage pregnancy and maternal mortality ratios in Liberia, the interventions promote increased availability and access to reproductive health supplies and services, and increased access to quality sexuality education. Continued support to family planning facilities and youth-friendly sexual health services will be important to decrease unintended pregnancies, along with sexuality education curriculum, and address gender gaps in education. In addition, support is also foreseen to sexually/gender marginalised populations; to increase their access to essential services as well as increase awareness of rights and promotion of a law that protects and recognise all regardless of their gender identity and sexual orientation.

Continued work to enhance capacities and social accountability mechanisms of women's rights organisations and civil society actors will be vital in these efforts to raise awareness, inform

about laws and policies, and monitor, fast-track and ensure access to response and health services. Their role is particularly important in hard-to-reach counties and communities, where basic and response services may not be available, and information on rights and laws is not commonly accessible.

As mentioned in the previous section of the CLIP, G1 actions with gender equality as a significant objective include interventions focusing on women's economic empowerment and women's representation and political participation.

4. Engage in dialogue for gender equality and women empowerment

The EUD and EU MS will continue to support and acknowledge the GoL, CSOs and other stakeholders for their commitments and efforts to combat SGBV in the complex and difficult Liberian context, while at the same time promote and encourage actions in accordance with the fundamental human rights. With regard to GEWE, it is foreseen to continue to:

- Address and make greater efforts to prevent SGBV and promote gender equality while working with the legislature to deliver a law and permanent ban on FGM. Discussions with, and outreach towards, line Ministries will continue, in particular with the Ministries of Gender, Finance, Justice and Internal Affairs, and other relevant state institutions for enhanced action and coordination. In this regard, the EU will also encourage the GoL towards enhanced coordination and dialogues with traditional leaders, and socioeconomic measures (aimed at creating alternative livelihoods) at the community level for longer-term change in perceptions, attitudes and behaviours.
- Continued support and promotion of a gender-responsive planning and budgeting (GRP) in the allocation of resources –both at the national and county levels– contributing to equitable service delivery and opportunities for all.
- **Strengthen the capacities and resources of the security and justice bodies to increase access to justice and fight the high levels of impunity.**
- Promote and increase women's political participation and representation, including the institution of an enforceable 30% gender quota on candidate listing and the leadership of political parties and coalitions.
- Increase awareness and promote dialogues to address and prevent violence against women in elections (VAWIE).
- Liaise regularly with women rights organisations, CSOs and human rights defenders, particularly before the political dialogues with the GoL. Organise at least once a year a meeting with civil society, human rights defenders and EU actors to discuss the gender equality and human rights situation and challenges.

5. Outreach and other communication / public diplomacy activities

Communication and public diplomacy activities will be carried out throughout the implementation of the GAP III, with a twofold purpose. On the one hand, to enforce outreach of positive actions and developments in the GEWE sector by highlighting positive advances and work done by inspiring role-models, and at the other, to address issues of concern, raise

awareness and provide a space for engagement and open discussions. Communication and public diplomacy activities will aim to increase the awareness and impact on GEWE, build trust and provide inspiring examples, and to improve the understanding of TEIs work and position on GEWE. Outreach and communication work is foreseen to continue to promote positive masculinity and male role models, address SGBV and FGM, and promote women's economic empowerment and political participation via activities such as events, roundtables, workshops, radio campaigns, media and social media outreach. Furthermore, outreach activities will continue to involve political statements, such as the EUD and EU MS joint statement in August 2020 expressing concern over the alarming rates of rape²², and can additionally include sharing of results and findings of gender analysis and reports where available.

6. Technical Facility and/or financial resources allocated to support GAP III implementation

The final allocation of the MIP for Liberia is EUR 13 million, while the overall allocation for the TCF (studies, workshops etc.) is expected to be EUR 7 million. In this regard, if need be, funds are envisioned under the TCF to ensure implementation of the GAP III. The estimated funding envelope for the G2 action is currently set at 13 MEUR.

Developing a country gender profile is part of GAP III commitments, as mentioned in the first section, and the development of the Country Gender Equality Profile (CGEP) for Liberia is done. The CGEP was initiated by the MoGCSP in 2020 and rolled out in 2021 as a multi-donor initiative with UN Women, AfDB, EU and Sweden. The EU and Sweden have contributed approximately USD 50,000 respectively to the development of the CGEP. The EU contribution has been channelled via a budget reallocation from the Liberia Spotlight Initiative programme.

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Signed-off by Chargé d'Affaires a. i. Juan Antonio Frutos Goldaratz

²² <https://frontpageafricaonline.com/front-slider/liberia-european-union-expresses-deep-concerns-over-alarming-rate-of-rape-cases/>