

# UNITY PARTY PLATFORM

## (AN ABRIDGED VERSION)

2023

"It is time to use Agriculture, Roads, Rule of Law, Education, Sanitation and Tourism to ARREST Poverty and Ignorance in Liberia"

### REFOCUS AND REBRAND TO RESCUE LIBERIA

- ▶▶ **AGRICULTURE**
- ▶▶ **ROADS**
- ▶▶ **RULE OF LAW**
- ▶▶ **EDUCATION**
- ▶▶ **SANITATION**
- ▶▶ **TOURISM**



# (ARREST)

THINK LIBERIA | LOVE LIBERIA | BUILD LIBERIA

# THE LIBERIA WE WANT

## PREAMBLE

Liberia elections 2023: We, the Unity Party and our Collaborating Political Parties, have put together this Platform as our Vision for Liberia. It presents vital Core Values that will guide our relationship with Liberian people, and the work we will do upon acquiring the mandate from the Liberian people. This platform defines the hopes and aspirations of the people, and offers vital alternatives for the development and implementation of national programs as significant recipes for maintaining the hard-won peace, reinvigorating shared economic growth and development, and move the nation forward over the next six years (2024-2029).

We, the Unity Party, believe much was achieved during the 12 years of reign of the country under our stewardship. Liberia achieved and enjoyed peace and stability, which impacted the creation of sound, competitive and equitable economic development. Also, we made Herculean efforts which ensured Liberia's reclamation to her prominent place in the comity of nations and the restoration of hope to Liberians. Indeed, Liberia was set on the path of prosperity, which created opportunities for Liberians to create wealth, improve their social and economic security and dignity of life. But today, however, many of the gains realized under the Unity Party's leadership have been destroyed during the past five years of the Coalition for Democratic Change (CDC)-led regime. Up to current, Liberians continue to witness widespread abuses of the country's national resources that are placed in the hands of the privileged few, and corruption continues to be prevalent at its peak in public service. Also, citizen security and human rights are no longer guaranteed, and many unexplained killings continue to be unresolved. The reputation of the Judiciary has become marred by allegations of corruption.

In view of the foregoing, there are a lot of works to be done, as quickly as possible, to rescue Liberia, and begin to rebuild by strengthening the various institutions and fast-tracking development in all sectors of the economy. The CDC-led government has not been capable of managing the country because they lack the capability and competence, and were not prepared, and as such, they have dragged the nation back into a state of pariah just over the past five years. We, therefore, are resolved to "Focus" on the "Rebranding" of Liberia to change the current negative perceptions of the Liberian people to a "new mindset" that Government (as institution) should work in their behalf, by providing public goods and basic social services.

Amidst the challenges highlighted supra, it requires significantly great level of preparations, and we already prepared to scrupulously and timely deal with the challenges ahead of us. We are determined to taking firm actions that will seek to restore the dignity of Liberia, and again begin the process of building a better future, which will ensure the quality of life for all Liberians. We, the Unity Party and Collaborating Alliances, remain confident that working together as "**One People**" will enable the accomplishment of our national goals.

Over the past five years under the CDC-led government's misrule, the Liberian people have demonstrated their resilience, and the pending General and Presidential Elections present opportunities to correct those mistakes that were made. The Unity Party recognizes the utilization of the collective ability and development of collective capacity of Liberians in our national renewal process. The Liberian people, whether home or abroad, want better lives for themselves and their country. Liberians deserve nothing, but the best. Therefore, we, the Unity Party along with our collaborating political parties, auxiliary groups, sympathizers and well-wishers do proclaim that this "Platform Document" shall be a national instrument that envisages a Liberia in which every citizen will achieve and actualize his or her potential. It shall seek: a Liberia that guarantees the Rule of Law and Civil Liberties; a Liberia in which individuals trusted with national stewardship provide proper accountability; a Liberia that encourages a merit-based system; a Liberia in which institutions are functional through participatory democracy; and a Liberia that prioritizes investments in human capital and public infrastructure. Essentially, the Liberia we aspire to establish shall seek to improve the wellbeing of all. Ambassador Joseph N. Boakai and the Unity Party can help make the Liberia we envisage become a reality.

The policies that underpin this platform require meaningful investments in public infrastructure, such as roads, energy (electricity), agriculture, and human capital to guarantee economic growth and development. Our citizens shall enjoy the benefits from economic growth, access to improved school system, healthcare and alleviation of poverty. They shall also enjoy increase in literacy rates and benefit from the dividends of economic development, including an increment in life expectancy. This platform maintains the "**Think Liberia, Love Liberia, and Build Liberia**" mantra, which is fundamental to the actualization of our goals.

**First, Think Liberia:** We must challenge ourselves to think Liberia foremost in our national endeavors, and put our country and the people's interest first above everything else. We must defiantly think our situations; that is, think outside of the conventional wisdom box. We must dream big, dare impossibilities, think beyond narrow interests, and think forward.

**Second, Love Liberia:** Love of country should transcend words and define all well-meaning leaderships. It should permeate every fabric of our society and be demonstrated in all aspects and at all levels of our national life. We must instill in ourselves a common resolve to fundamentally and qualitatively change the lives of our people. We must cultivate and exhibit the highest sense of patriotism in all that we do. Accordingly, loving Liberia must begin in families, local communities, and cut across schools, churches, mosques, sporting grounds, farms, marketplaces, offices, manufacturing plants, and every place where there are Liberians. Love is a mindset. Love is actionable. Love does not always take. Love gives. Love Liberia must give back to community and country.

**Third, Build Liberia:** We must build Liberia in the same manner as the contemporary developments we see evolving around us in Africa and in the world. We cannot just patch up, renovate and make do. It cannot just be business as usual---the old Liberian way. There should be standards, designs, and road-maps that are forward-looking; we must be purposeful and strategic in our thinking and actions. Development is about people and, as such, we must truly transform the quality of life of our people. We must develop rational human advancement programs and utilize the latest technologies and state-of-the-arts in areas such as education, health, youth empowerment, communications and transportation, energy and the environment, agriculture and food security, and housing and human settlements. We must attend to the critical issues of power (electricity), clean pipe-borne water and roads without which private investments will not be attracted. We must transform our rural communities, rebuild trusting communities, contain the rapid rural-to-urban migration of our youthful population, and reinvent our towns and cities. We must accentuate science and technology in a manner that enhances and speeds up our national progress.

We must strive to have a critical mass of our best, talented and dedicated sons and daughters, old and young, who are willing to be creative in their thinking about Liberia; passionate and patriotic in their love for country; deliberate and purposeful in their actions to build Liberia; and committed enough to lead Liberia at this critical point. We must also build a strong middle class as we strive to empower the underserved. Anything less is unacceptable.

# AN ACCOUNT OF UNITY PARTY 12 YEARS OF STEWARDSHIP

In 2006, the Unity Party inherited a nation that was largely reduced to rubble as a result of many years of civil strife. The economy was complete shuttered, and on the records, there existed a historical negative growth and insurmountable debt burden of US \$4.7 billion. Various government institutions were dysfunctional, including integrity institutions that were virtually nonexistent. Our government inherited a bloated civil service that paid on average US \$15.00 a month, and irregularly. The roads in our capital and other parts of the country were impassable. The hydroelectric plant at the Mount Coffee was completely destroyed. There was no possibility of transmitting and distributing electricity grid to the population. Liberian lacked access to basic social services. Schools, hospitals, and clinics were in ruins. Only a fraction of our children were in schools and taught by unqualified volunteers. An estimated 51 doctors served a population of 4.5 million people. In Monrovia, the water and sanitation systems were destroyed. The nation's highest institution of learning, the University of Liberia (U. L.), was virtually closed as well as other institutions of higher learning. As a matter of fact by then, Liberia had lost her place in the comity of nations. These impediments deprived Liberia the fiscal space to engender economic growth and development. However, during the Unity Party 12 years of leadership, we changed the situation by improving the environment locally and internationally. Liberia's international image changed from as a pariah state to a nation recognized for playing important roles in regional and global matters.

**Infrastructure Development:** We reconstructed the Mount Coffee Hydroelectric Plant and constructed 38 Megawatt of Heavy Fuel Oil Plants which are currently providing electricity to several communities in Monrovia and other places. We expanded the electricity grid and made power available to five counties, namely: Nimba, Grand Gedeh, Maryland, Montserrado, and Margibi. We secured additional funding and works expanding the electricity grid to Bomi, Bong, River Gee, with prospect to Grand Bassa County for an additional 100,000 connections for homes and businesses. Our government paved, rehabilitated and constructed over 800 kilometers of primary, secondary and tertiary roads, and concluded substantial arrangements doubling the amount. Our government has completed the pavement of more roads than all past administrations combined and including the current CDC-led government. To confirm our assertions, the records are available. The Unity Party-led Government constructed and completed the pavements of the following primary road corridors: (1) Monrovia, Montserrado County to Ganta, Guinea boarder, Nimba county; (2) ELWA Junction, Montserrado County to the Port City of Buchanan; (3) Harper City, Maryland County to the Ivorian Border; and (4) Pleebo to Karloken in Maryland County to Fishtown, River Gee County. We secured funding for pavement of the first lot of the Gbarnga to Manikorma Highway Project, Gbarnga, Bong County to Kornia, Lofa Counties. We also constructed primary bridges to replace the collapsed or aged ones, and made significant progress in paving several kilometers of streets in the capital city, Monrovia, several communities and streets of counties capitals. Today, the Freeport of Monrovia, which was closed to collapse in 2006, is now an international shipping and port security ISPS certified port. The Freeport of Monrovia can now boast of a brand new marginal wharf of 600 meters long, as well as a new fuel unloading facility at the Liberia Petroleum Refinery Corporation (LPRC). Buchanan and Sinoe ports, once nonfunctional, similarly underwent significant improvements.

*1. Ministry Education Annual Report 2015/2016*

The existing facilities of the Roberts International Airport were rehabilitated and a new terminal building constructed, which brought it up to international standard with the rehabilitation of the runway and the installation of an improved landing equipment. Our government invested in the rehabilitation of the White Plains Water Treatment Plant and restored its prewar status, with producing capacity of 16 million gallons of piped water per day to residents in the capital city. Similar water facilities were made operational in the following capitals or counties: Kakata-Margibi, Buchanan-Grand Bassa, Zwedru-Grand Gedeh, Voinjama-Lofa, Sanniquellie-Nimba, and Robertsport-Grand Cape Mount.

**Education:** The Unity Party constructed over 300 new schools and renovated hundreds. The three rural teacher training institutes we made operational again training over 6000 professionals teachers to replace unqualified volunteers. To address the dire need for quality education, we renovated and renewed Tubman University in Maryland County, which currently serves as a regional institution of higher learning. We also constructed new facilities with state of the art at the following institutions: (1) U. L.-Fendell Campus; (2) Monrovia Vocational Training Center (MVTC), and Klay Agriculture Vocational Training Center (KAVTC) in Bomi County. Our government established five community colleges in Nimba, Lofa, Bomi, Grand Gedeh, and Grand Bassa Counties, and instituted an innovative partnership with private institutions with support from international foundations. By 2017, over two million students were enrolled in school compared to 600,000 in 2006. Teacher Payroll vetting was completed in several counties with 1,300 ghost names removed from the payroll and additional 500 new teachers hired. Over 2 million textbooks and supplementary readers, including learning materials, were distributed to all public and community schools from Grades 1 to 12, benefiting over 495,842 students and 22,137 teachers in the 15 counties across the country.

**Healthcare:** We left 712 functioning health facilities, many with auxiliaries of preventive action. By the end of 2017, with additional certified by the reactivated WOT School of Medicine, took us to 298 medical doctors. We renovated the John F. Kennedy referral hospital in Monrovia, constructed a state of the art hospital in Tappita, Nimba county, renovated and updated all county referral hospitals. Primary healthcare was made free throughout the entire country. A first state of the art eye clinic established in partnership with Lions Club of Liberia/LV Prasad Eye Center of India was established and is currently functional, and it has performed the first ever cornea transplant in West Africa.

**Security, Justice & Rule of Law:** In the area of security, justice, and the rule of law, we created a new and professional army, and more than 7,000 police officers and other security personnel were trained and deployed across the country. We made significant effort to decentralize government services, by building 15 service centers (one in each county) and a dozen of court facilities in various counties, including the state of the art facility in Nimba County. These efforts ensured that citizens in rural communities got easy access to the services of government. Additionally, institutions such as the Public Procurement and Concessions Commission (PPCC), the Liberia Anti-Corruption Commission (LACC), the General Auditing Commission (GAC), the Internal Audit Agency (IAA), the Liberia Revenue Authority (LRA), Liberia Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (LEITI), the National Fisheries & Aquaculture Authority (NaFAA), the Law Reform Commission (LRC), the National Road Fund (NRF), the National Disaster Management Agency (NDMA) were all established and or strengthened to enhance governance and better protect our national resources. Our government enhanced the dignity of civil servants by increasing their salaries over 600% and payments were regularly made to them.

**Agriculture:** Our government developed the Agriculture Sector Development, including the Liberia Agriculture Transformation Agenda (LATA), the second generations of Liberia Agriculture Sector Investment plan (LASIP) was transitioned to the National Agriculture INVESTMENT Plan (NAIP). We established the National Agriculture Identification Registry and recorded 5,000 farming households, comprising 1,000 upland rice farming households; 500 lowland rice farming households; 3,000 cassava farming households; and 500 vegetable farming households across the

country using this data-base. We distributed 70 kg of assorted vegetable seeds (pepper, eggplant, cucumber, cabbage, etc.) and 100 bags of sweet potato vines to 500 farming households across the country.

We provided agricultural inputs, such as rice, corn and vegetable seeds and as well as assorted hand tools, to 19,504 farmers. In area of AquaCulture, we created employments in Bong, Margibi, Grand Bassa and Cape Mount Counties through the development of four Aquaculture parks (32 ponds and 8 hatcheries).

We provided technical and material support to 57,657 smallholder food crop farmers (10,179 in lowland ecology, 20,165 upland ecology, 18,798 in cassava cultivation, 8,515 in vegetable production), and 20,192 cash crop farmers; and 64,847 smallholder livestock farmers (30,534 in poultry production; 31,273 in small ruminant rearing; 2,568 in piggery production; and 472 in cattle rearing) to enhance their productivity. Facilitated training for about 1,400 farmers in Good Agriculture Practices in crop, livestock and fisheries production. Provided support (tuition & allowances) to 37 undergraduate students studying general agriculture at the College of Agriculture and Forestry of the University of Liberia (33 students) and Cuttington University (4 students) and conducted staff development support (instructor recruitment and capacity building).

The Unity Party government constructed a soil and crop laboratory for the College of Agriculture & Forestry of the University of Liberia in Montserrado and the College of Agriculture & Food Sciences of the William V.S. Tubman University in Maryland counties. We provided technical support to eight (8) Farmer Coops, three (3) Farmer Associations, and 48 Farmer-Based Organizations in Bong, Nimba and Grand Gedeh counties, and rehabilitation is ongoing on 1,800 hectare of cocoa and 184 hectare of coffee. The Unity Party government invested in the revitalization of small-scale oil palm of the Dube Oil Palm Plantation in Konobo District, Grand Gedeh County run by smallholders; including support to rehabilitation and replanting of 600 hectare, built the capacity of the existing cooperatives, and developed intermediate processing technologies; and promoted an out growers' scheme (600 ha) around a concessionaire, EPO-LIBINCO in Grand Bassa county.

We also invested in smallholder tree crops revitalization with focus on Cocoa/Coffee Revitalization: rehabilitating, replanting and extension of cocoa/coffee farms 7,500 hectares in Bong, Nimba, and Grand Gedeh counties; technical and management advice to smallholders and their farmer organizations (FOs); quality promotion and market linkages; enhancing access of cocoa and coffee farmers and FOs to adapted financial services; and development of small scale processing. Rubber Revitalization was done through the planting and the extension of rubber farms 2,600 hectares in Margibi and Montserrado Counties in partnership with two main concessionaires and one large Liberian estate. Additionally, our government revitalized about 15,000 hectares of Cocoa and Coffee Plantations.

# PILLAR ONE (1): MACROECONOMIC STABILITY AND INFRASTRUCTURAL DEVELOPMENT

When Liberia had its first peaceful political transition of government in seventy years in 2018, Liberians and friends of Liberia were hopeful that sustained peace would also lead to a transition from one stable and well-managed economy to another. Instead, the last six years have witnessed the country backsliding into the abyss of economic despair. The Liberian economy has been performing poorly during this period resulting to decline in the purchasing power, increased vulnerability of employment in the private sector, and insecurity of tenure for civil servants and other public servants. Real GDP declined by 1.2% in 2018 and further contracted by 2.5% in 2019 (*according to the IMF World Economic Outlook-April 2023*). While the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020 contributed to a worldwide economic slowdown, the performance of the Liberian economy in that year cannot be totally attributed to the pandemic. The government's unpreparedness and sluggish response strategies also contributed to the decline. As a result, an economy that was predicted at worst to witness zero growth in 2020 actually declined by 3% during the period due to the lack of appropriate mitigation policies and strategies, and the misapplication of the social and economic stimulus package designed by the government to cushion the economy and reduce the impact of the shock on the lives of ordinary Liberians.

Unity Party remains committed to building an economy that fulfills the goals of the Vision 2030 in which Liberia aspires to become a middle income country. This means creating a country in which the government makes efforts to increase the number of citizens who can take care of themselves from their own pockets, and creating a country with thousands of people who become rich from using what they have learned and from their own business activities. The Unity Party also believes in tying our development plans to the United Nations development agenda called the *Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)*, and the African Union's development plan called *Africa Agenda for Action 2063*. That is why during our regime, we ensured that these three domestic, regional and global development agendas were harmonized so that the implementation of our plan will not stop us from achieving the goals of the others. The Unity Party-led government will be required to take appropriate actions to resuscitate the economy and restore dignity to our people. Our agenda would therefore include, ensuring efficient management of the economy to restore its growth potential, engaging in prudent fiscal management to ensure efficient utilization of the available budgetary resources, and restoring confidence in our monetary and financial sectors management programs.

## PILLAR TWO (2): HEALTH, WASH, THE ENVIRONMENT & CLIMATE CHANGE

It is an established fact that improved healthcare, water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) services are critical for human capital development. However, our health system faces various systemic challenges which continues to affect efficient healthcare delivery and the provision of basic WASH facilities. While some efforts have been made in health promotion, preventive and curative health services along with some investments in health facilities, the system remains challenged by low health professional-to-patient ratio, inadequate medical and surgical equipment, and low-quality drugs at most facilities.

WASH services remain a major challenge with the vast majority of people in rural areas lacking decent toilets and latrines and have to defecate in the bushes around towns and villages. Majority of our people also lack access to safely managed drinking water and sanitation services. Limited access to safe drinking water, lack of basic sanitation services and poor hygiene practices negatively impact the overall health status and development of our people and leads to an inability of children to learn and increased school absenteeism. Recent trends in the environment and climate-change have also witnessed dramatic effects, such as flooding in urban communities, and drought which are negatively impacting farming. Improving access to water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) facilities for our people should be a priority. Actions aimed at reducing the rate of infection, diseases and death will be taken to alleviate the above mentioned adversed situations.

## PILLAR THREE (3): HUMAN CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT

During the Unity Party-led regime, Liberia made significant interventions aimed at addressing the challenges in the educational sector to increase access to education. Educational facilities were restored and new ones established throughout the country to give children opportunities to enroll in schools. Several community colleges were established to offer opportunities for post-secondary education. However, under current government, the imperative ingredients of quality, equity, management and relevance that characterize an effective education system remain weak. Liberia's human development outcomes remain comparatively low (153 out of 157), with an HCI score of 0.31 according to the World Bank's 2020 Human Capital Index (HCI). These outcomes are results of numerous challenges the educational sector faces.

Our educational system is replete with many challenges that affect not just access but also quality. There is an acute shortage of trained teachers in basic and secondary education, which reflects the low output of Rural Teachers' Training Institutes (RTTIs). While the pupil-teacher ratios remain modest in basic and secondary schools, the trained teachers are in low supply. For instance, the share of trained teachers is 35% in Early Child Education (ECE), 45% in primary, 31% in junior high and 26% in senior high schools (Liberia ESA, 2021). The shortage of trained teachers in basic and secondary education puts the pursuit of quality education in serious jeopardy, as the pupil-qualified-teacher ratios are soaring across the four levels of the educational sector. One of the main causes of



teacher attrition is poor compensation package as compared to the income level of other sectors in the economy.

Non-prioritization has hampered efforts to operationalize policy commitments for children with disabilities. Educational services for children with disabilities (CwD) are largely delivered by Development Partners (DP), or through the government grants allocated to institutions for students with specific disabilities. But government financial commitment has declined in recent years with just over 90,000 USD (less than one percent of the overall education budget) spent in 2019 on institutions providing educational services to children with specific needs.

## PILLAR FOUR (4): RULE OF LAW AND GOVERNANCE

The Unity Party began the process of rebuilding Liberia after assuming power in January 2006 through the prism of good governance and the rule of law. The commendable gains made on the governance and justice fronts were only possible because of the UP-led government's commitment to ensuring that Liberia becomes a better place for all. Unfortunately, six years of poor governance has reversed those gains and the country continues to deteriorate in the dungeons of bad governance. As the Party gears up to retake state power, there is a need for a renewed and vigorous commitment to revive the governance and justice systems for a better Liberia.

Proper governance discharge of justice require time and commitment from leaders who understand the benefits of aligning every level of efforts to produce desired results. Good governance ensures that the governing environment is fair and transparent and that everyone can be held accountable for his or her action(s). Good governance and justice are capable of delivering a sustainable economic growth and development. Governance plays a key role in the development and prosperity in preserving the sanity of the nation. With good governance, it is possible for any country to develop effectively and enjoy prosperity. However, without good governance, a society can not achieve development and prosperity.

Despite inheriting a failed system in 2006 which undermined Liberia's progress on the governance and rule of law fronts, the Unity Party was committed to 12 years of building a nation premised on governance and the rule of law. However, having heavily invested in governance and the rule of law in 12 years, the last 6 years witnessed a complete breakdown in governance and the rule of law. In spite of the current breakdown in systems, the UP-led government commits to restoring good governance and the rule of law. We will resume compliance with international conventions and protocols that will drive the nation forward. All aspects of good governance and the rule of law will be promoted with no deference to favoritism for any social status, but for the good of every Liberian. The Unity Party-led government will avoid and discourage elitism to governance, by using the resources to foster and promote values such as, individual and collective freedom, tolerance and equality to avoid marginalization and alienation that trigger disgruntlement and insecurity.

## PILLAR FIVE (5): GENDER, YOUTH, CHILDREN AND SOCIAL PROTECTION

Liberia made progress to reduce disparities in gender participation in governance process with the election of the first female president on the continent of Africa. During the UP's regime, laws were legislated to protect women and girls against domestic violence and crimes, such as rape and other sexual-based violence. Other efforts made by the UP-led government resulted into the legislation of the child protection law and the development of programs to support young people. However, recent years have seen increased risks of inequality and vulnerability in the society, especially for the vulnerable population, such as children and at-risked youths. The rights of women and girls have come under increasing threats of violation as the gender-inequality gap continues to increase in the Liberian society. According to the UNDP 2020 Human Development Report, Liberia has a gender inequality index (GII) value of 0.650, ranking it 156 out of 162 countries in 2019, compared to 154 out of 162 countries in 2023. This indicates a drop in Liberia's strides to achieving gender equality. The number of out-of-school children (OOSC) population in our society is also increasing, especially for poor children and girls who have now become breadwinners for their families. This further sets the stage for future increment not only in gender gaps, but the gap between the poor children and those from affluent families. Furthermore, in spite of the fact that the President of the current regime came to prominence through soccer, Liberia's participation in all major sporting competitions, including football, remains poor as the country lacks any major program for youth and sports development.

The UP-led government remains committed to prioritizing and addressing risks of inequality and vulnerability across the society to ensure that everyone, especially vulnerable populations, has an improved livelihood. The UP-led government will develop the necessary programs and structures, and enacts laws and formulate policies that ensure the empowerment of women, girls, youth, children, and persons with special needs, including the elderly. Our government will commit to ensuring that all public sector ministries, agencies, and commissions concerned with women, youth, children, and social protection are fully empowered and decentralized to serve Liberians at all levels of the society. As a government, we will commit to taking appropriate actions needed to restore dignity to sport and entertainment industries. We will create an enabling environment where young people will live in safety with the utmost security. The government will provide equal opportunities for young people to realize their dreams, aspirations and cultivate the necessary skills to explore their maximum potential.

## PILLAR SIX (6): THE FIGHT AGAINST CORRUPTION

**The Unity Party government-led** made progress in the fight against corruption during its 12 years in power. In particular, the government demonstrated strong leadership on anti-corruption issues which has translated into ensuring the independence of the General Auditing Commission, supporting the establishment of the Liberia Anti-Corruption Commission, promoting transparent financial management, public procurement and budget processes and assuring Liberia's compliance with the Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (EITI) through the Liberian EITI law. These efforts were pro-actively supported by the international community and civil society through the Governance and Economic Management Assistance Program (GEMAP). These combined efforts contributed to achieve remarkable progress in terms of control of corruption. However, in spite of these positive developments, corruption remains endemic and permeates most sectors of the society.

Today, Liberia was ranked 137th out of 180 countries in the Transparency International Corruption Perception Index in 2020. According to a US Department of State report (ICS, 2022), government corruption is a fact of daily life for Liberians and businesses alike. Corruption in Liberia continues to rob the citizens of access to vital services, including healthcare, public safety, and education. Corruption degrades the business environment, subverts economic opportunity, exacerbates inequality, erodes the integrity and independence of democratic institutions, fuels a growing distrust between government and society, feeds political division and unrest, and increases national insecurity. In addition to the misuse of most-needed funds for national development, distrust deriving from corruption discourages Liberians from paying the taxes they should pay as citizens and entrepreneurs. Bad governance practices including corruption are key factors responsible for Liberia's continuous ranking as one of the poor countries in the world.

The UP-led government is absolutely committed to the uncompromising fight against corruption to restore integrity and accountability in the governance system. We shall uphold integrity in the economic management of the country's natural resources to ensure wealth generated from their exploitations benefit to our people. The government shall commit all public servants and officials to a high standard of transparency and accountability, and ensure efficient management of public resources across government ministries and agencies. Our government shall be committed to a strong and independent judiciary and justice system to enforce the laws and regulations, and hold both public and private actors accountable for their actions. UP-led government shall pursue a clean governance process that will be based meritocracy, inclusiveness, proper asset management, and strong cultural and ethical principles.

# INVESTMENT PILLARS

## (Social and Economic Development)

<b>Pillar One (1)</b> <b>Macroeconomic Stability</b> <b>and Infrastructural</b>	<b>Pillar Two (2)</b> <b>Health, WASH,</b> <b>The Environment</b> <b>&amp; Climate</b>	<b>Pillar Three (3)</b> <b>Human Capacity</b> <b>Development</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Ensure Efficient Economic Management</li> <li>-Engage in Prudent Fiscal Management</li> <li>-Restore Confidence in Our Monetary and Financial Sectors</li> <li>-Promote Agriculture, Forestry Management &amp; Fisheries Development</li> <li>-Promote sustainable Job Creation</li> <li>-Improve Commerce and Industry</li> <li>-Promote Commerce and Trade Regulations</li> <li>-Establish Special Economic Zone</li> <li>-Enforce implementation of the Liberianization Policy</li> <li>-Develop Road &amp; Bridge Infrastructures</li> <li>-Ensure Prudent Management of the National Road Fund</li> <li>-Develop Air &amp; Sea Ports Transport Networks</li> <li>-Improve Nationwide Access to ICT</li> <li>-Prioritize Energy Sector Development Improve</li> <li>-Mineral &amp; Natural Resource Management</li> <li>-Promote Culture &amp; Tourism</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Strengthen Healthcare Delivery System</li> <li>-Restore Confidence in Health Sector Leadership</li> <li>-Ensure a Patient-centered Health Workforce</li> <li>-Strengthen and Restore Integrity in Healthcare Financing</li> <li>-Strengthen Health Information System (HIS)</li> <li>-Ensure Availability of Medicines &amp; Medical Supplies</li> <li>-Improve Mental Healthcare Delivery</li> <li>-Improve Water &amp; Sanitation Services</li> <li>-Promote Development of Healthy Environment</li> <li>-Promote and Support Climate-Change Mitigation Initiatives</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Strengthen Education System to Improve Outcomes</li> <li>-Strengthen Early Childhood Education</li> <li>-Improve the Quality of Primary Education</li> <li>-Strengthen the Outcomes of Secondary Education</li> <li>-Strengthen and Improve the Quality of Tertiary Education</li> <li>-Diversify &amp; Promote Technical &amp; Vocational Education Training</li> <li>Improve Educational Systems</li> </ul>
<b>Pillar Four (4)</b> <b>Governance</b> <b>&amp;</b> <b>Rule of Law</b>	<b>Pillar Five (5)</b> <b>Gender,</b> <b>Youth, Children</b> <b>&amp;</b> <b>Social Protection</b>	<b>Pillar Six (6)</b> <b>The Fight Against</b> <b>Corruption</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Improve Foreign Relations &amp; Strengthen Global Engagement</li> <li>-Strengthen National Security to Ensure Security for all Residence</li> <li>-Improve Rule of Law and Ensure Justice\ for all Residence</li> <li>-Strengthen Integrity Institutions and Ensure Accountability in Public Service</li> <li>-Strengthen Election Governance to Ensure Transparency and Integrity in Electoral Process</li> <li>-Promote Peace and National Reconciliation</li> <li>-Pursue &amp; Defined Legislative Agenda</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Prioritize Gender and Women Empowerment</li> <li>-Support the Physically Challenged and Provide Social Protection</li> <li>-Support Child Protection Initiatives</li> <li>-Promote Sports and Recreation</li> <li>-Promote Youth Development</li> <li>-Ensure Economic Empowerment of our youth</li> <li>-Strengthen Institutional Frameworks for the Support to Youth Development</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Strengthening Anti-Corruption Institution</li> <li>-Implementing Comprehensive Background Checks on Government Officials</li> <li>-Ensuring Accountability and Transparency</li> <li>-Digitizing Government Services</li> <li>-Implementing A Zero-Tolerance Policy</li> <li>-Promoting Ethical Leadership and Public Service</li> <li>-Engaging Civil Society and the Private Sector</li> <li>-International Cooperation and Stolen Asset Recovery</li> </ul>

## PROPRIETY INVESTMENT AREAS (Agriculture, Road, Rule Of Law, Education, Sanitation And Tourism)

**A**griculture, in time past, was the foundation of Liberia's economy. It played critical role not just in the national food economy, but also served as the main driver of economic development and source of employment for a large proportion of the Country's labor force. It used to be the one of key sources of foreign exchange earnings driving growth, and also served as the main source of food security and poverty reduction. The country has a comparative prospect in agricultural production, with arable land comprising about 41 percent of the total land area. In addition to its rich freshwater resources, the county enjoys an abundant rainfall that naturally supports two production seasons. Its primary agro-ecological zones are characterized by coastal plains and upper highlands, and lower tropical forests that make it suitable for both food and cash crops production. Sadly, the current leadership has not been able to recognize these opportunities for the benefit of the citizens. However, the Unity Party-led Government will utilize these opportunities in the agriculture sector to lift Liberians out of poverty and develop the country. Therefore, our agriculture development agenda will be to:

- ▶ Promote Agricultural Mechanization to Improve Farmers' Access to using Technologies in Production that make them grow more food;
- ▶ Establish three machinery hubs in our food basket counties (Bong, Lofa, and Nimba), and invest in the procurement of appropriate farm equipment to support our people grow more of their own food;
- ▶ Use the hubs to provide land preparation services for farming groups and cooperatives as well as assist large farmers intending to engage in large-scale production of our staple food crops;
- ▶ Work through a public-private partnership and our development partners to provide improved seeds, pesticides, fertilizers, and small farm machines such as power tillers, and harvesters for farmers who will engage in rice production;
- ▶ Identify and work with existing farmer groups and large individual farmers to engage in large-scale seed multiplication for distribution to smallholder farmers;
- ▶ Support Farmers to Increase Production of the Country's Main Staple Food Crop;
- ▶ Strengthen the Development of Rice Processing Industry to Increase Domestic Rice Supply;
- ▶ Strengthen Agriculture Extension and Advisory Service Delivery System to Improve our Farmers' Access to Adequate Production and Marketing Information;
- ▶ Regulate and Standardize Units of Measurement in the Commercialization of Agricultural Commodities;

- ▶ Develop National Strategy to Agriculture Development Based on Regional Comparative Advantage;
- ▶ Support Agribusiness Enterprise Development to Enhance Agriculture Value Chains;
- ▶ Improve Access to Agricultural Value Chain Financing and Enhance Financial Literacy of Farmers;
- ▶ Promote Diversification of Agricultural Production and Food System;

**R**oads remain critical infrastructure for the development of our country. The availability of quality paved roads and railroads will unlock the potential of both our agriculture and tourism industries and spur commerce and industry. Our administration will focus on the followings to improve access to our country and make the lives of our people better:

- ▶ Reinforce Appropriate Investment in Roads and Bridges to Expand Access Across the Country;
- ▶ Continue the pavement of highways connecting county capitals to create easy access to all regions of our country;
- ▶ Pave all highways connecting the country to neighboring countries in the region to enhance cross-border trade and interactions with our neighbors;
- ▶ Construct feeder roads throughout the country to enhance farmers' access to local markets and enhance local agriculture development;
- ▶ Ensure Proper Management of the National Road Fund (NRF) to Achieve it Legislated Mandate;
- ▶ Establish a National Road Authority and give it oversight for implementation of the national road fund to realize its legal mandates of:
  - Road infrastructure construction;
  - Road infrastructure maintenance;
  - Road infrastructure upgrading and rehabilitation;
  - Ensure transparency in the implementation of the Road Fund to restore donor confidence to recommit their contributions;

**R**ule of Law remains critical components to enhance our social and economic development. Unity Party began the process of rebuilding Liberia after assuming power in January 2006, through the prism of good governance and the rule of law. The commendable gains made on the governance and justice fronts were only possible because of the UP-led government's commitment to ensuring that Liberia becomes a better place for all. Unfortunately, six years of poor governance has reversed those gains, and the country continues to deteriorate in the dungeon of bad governance. As the Party gears up to retake state power, there is a need for a renewed and vigorous commitment to revive the governance and justice systems for a better Liberia

Despite inheriting a failed system in 2006, which undermined Liberia's progress on the governance and rule of law fronts, the Unity Party was committed to 12 years of building a nation premised on governance and the rule of law. However, having heavily invested in governance and the rule of law during the 12 years of the Unity Party Regime. However, within in 5 plus years under the CDC's leadership, we have witnessed a complete breakdown in governance and the rule of law. In spite of the current breakdown in systems, the UP-led government commits to restoring good governance and the rule of law. We will resume compliance with international conventions and protocols that will drive the nation forward. All aspects of good governance and the rule of law will be promoted with no deference to favoritism for any social status, but for the good of every Liberian. The Unity Party-led government will avoid and discourage elitism to governance, by using the resources to foster and promote values such as, individual and collective freedom, tolerance and equality to avoid marginalization and alienation that trigger disgruntlement and insecurity.

- ▶ The following actions shall remain guiding principles of the UP-led government's Foreign Policy to re-establish and strengthen Liberia's regional and global presence:
- ▶ Improve Foreign Relations and Strengthen Global Engagement;
- ▶ Strengthen partnership in economic, security, cultural and democratic governance by implementing treaties;
- ▶ Strengthen integration efforts within the Mano River Basin and that of ECOWAS through cooperation in the areas of peace and security;
- ▶ Establish strategic ties with regional economic blocs such as BRICS, and industrialized nations such as G20 and the G7 group of nations;
- ▶ Improve and strengthen partnership and involvement in the South-South Corporation;
- ▶ Strengthen performance of national securities agencies by providing the appropriate budgetary allocations;
- ▶ Continue reform of the security sector by strengthening the institutional capacity, manpower development and logistical capabilities to enhance operational efficiency;
- ▶ Increase the presence of trained police officers across the country, and provide the needed logistics, benefits, incentives and housing facilities where applicable for effective performance;
- ▶ Promote religious and ethnic coexistence amongst Liberians across the country guarantee stability;
- ▶ Adopt a zero-tolerance policy on corruption, armed robbery, ritualistic killings, rape and other forms of grave abuses and uncompromisingly implement judicial decisions arising such cases;

- ▶ Enhance the independence of the judiciary by adopting a completely hands-off approach in judicial decision making;
- ▶ Guarantee that the police and judicial systems provide equal protection and rights for all persons irrespective of the status and position in society;
- ▶ Ensure the courts are manned by qualified, competent and reputable judges and magistrates to professionally dispense justice to citizens;
- ▶ Equip public institutions with appropriate technology that allow physically challenged students to access instructional materials without barriers;
- ▶ Committed to a sincere fight against the importation, abuse and addiction of illicit/illegal drugs/substance;
- ▶ Empowering the Drug Enforcement Agency and other relevant security agencies to increase their capacity to drive a fight against the importation, abuse and addiction of illicit/illegal drugs/substances across the country;
- ▶ Build specialized institutions that cater to citizens with physical and mental disabilities across the country;
- ▶ Guarantee that physically challenged people have opportunities as non-disabled people to participate in civic life;
- ▶ Enforce asset declaration for all appointed public officials, and institute lifestyle and performance audits of all such officials;
- ▶ Ensure that public official accused and indicted for corruption by integrity institutions are suspended to allow them face their indictment in a court of competent jurisdiction;
- ▶ Establish the Office of the Ombudsman to enforce compliance with the National Code of Conduct;
- ▶ Establish an independent elections hearing body to adjudicate all elections-related complaints;
- ▶ Promote Peace and Reconciliation to Create and Maintain a Harmonious Society;
- ▶ Prioritize issues and challenges affecting young people and create opportunities that empower them to secure sources of livelihood through capacity building;
- ▶ Ensure community involvement in policy formulation and implementation through stakeholders engagements to guarantee trust and foster cooperation between the government and the people;
- ▶ Organize a National Peace and Reconciliation Conference to pursue a genuine path for total reconciliation and recovery for victims, survivors, families, communities, ethnic groups and citizenry as a result the civil crisis;
- ▶ Engage the Legislature to review existing concession agreements as may be required;
- ▶ Work with the Legislature to establish a specialized court to fast-track cases of corruption and economic crimes;



**E**ducation is critical for the development of any nation, but our educational system is replete with many challenges that affect not just access but also educational quality and outcomes. There is an acute shortage of trained teachers in basic and senior secondary schools, which reflects the low output of our Rural Teachers' Training Institutes (RTTIs). While the pupil-teacher ratios remain modest in basic and senior secondary schools, the trained teachers are in low supply. For instance, the share of trained teachers is 35% in ECE, 45% in primary, 31% in junior high and 26% in senior secondary schools (Liberia ESA, 2021). The shortage of trained teachers in basic and senior secondary puts the pursuit of quality education in serious jeopardy as the pupil-qualified-teacher ratios are soaring across the four levels of education. One of the main causes of teacher attrition is poor compensation package, often in comparison to the level available for other sectors of the economy. Teachers are dissatisfied with the level of pay and delays, which demotivate them and serve as an ingredient to low their desire enter or remain in the teaching profession. Our administration will take the following actions to address some of the challenges in our educational sector:

- ▶ Make Early Childhood Education (ECE) free and compulsory, and provide appropriate learning environment and materials in all primary public schools;
- ▶ Design programs to reduce overaged enrolment by 90 percent in the first-term, and ensure age appropriate enrolment through family and community approaches to reduce the out-of-school numbers;
- ▶ Strengthen the Teachers Training Institutions (TTIs) to provide innovative pre and in-service programs to train more teachers, and increase the number of trained ECE teachers to 90 percent in the first-term;
- ▶ Absorb more teachers on the payroll through a reform of the pay and grade scheme, and increase the number of ECE teachers on payroll to 90 percent in the first-term;
- ▶ Build more classrooms and adopt innovative approaches to scaling up access to primary education;
- ▶ Allocate more resources for students with special needs, and improve the institutions' capacity to address issues of special needs to ensure quality service delivery;
- ▶ Strengthen the home-grown school feeding program as a means of increasing enrolment from especially homes of less-privileged families;
- ▶ Increase primary school enrolment by 20 percent and reduce the number of out-of-school children by 40 percent in the first-term;
- ▶ Design and implement special programs and policies to increase girls' enrolment and retention in primary school, and discourage every traditional practices that prevent them from completing school;
- ▶ Strengthen the capacity of science teachers in every public secondary school across Liberia, and ensure private schools are in compliance;
- ▶ Develop special incentives to attract and retain qualify science teachers in rural secondary schools to improve the quality of science education throughout the country;
- ▶ Include technical skills training programs in secondary school curriculum to enable students acquire market-driven skills;

- ▶ Improve the current teaching and learning environment for teachers, students especially girls, to ensure quality learning outcomes;
- ▶ Strengthen and Improve the Quality of Tertiary Education to enhance output;
- ▶ Renovate and construct learning academies and administrative buildings for quality teaching and learning;
- ▶ Strengthen the relevance of programs in all disciplines through the revision of curricula to reflect market demands, standardize content, research and support to public policy formulation;
- ▶ Strengthen post-graduate program in the health sciences by providing adequate budgetary allocation to ensure the development of specialized health practitioners;
- ▶ Provide subsidies to private tertiary institutions to enhance the quality of learning outcomes;
- ▶ Diversify and Promote Technical and Vocational Education Training;
- ▶ Designate BWI as a first-class Training Center in Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics (STEM) in technical skills, and equip with the appropriate equipment, facilities and technical experts to train technicians in all technical and professional fields;
- ▶ Include technical skills development in secondary school curriculum and make it mandatory for students to take one TVET course as elective to provide them marketable skills having graduated;
- ▶ Strengthen apprenticeship programs to encourage concessions/industries to recruit students at TVET institutions to help sharpen their skills in order to make them employment ready;
- ▶ Institute programs and incentives with full community participation to reduce overage enrolment by 40 percent in the first-term;
- ▶ Re-constitute and strengthen County School Boards (CSBs) to oversee the management of County Educational Systems;
- ▶ Develop and implement accelerated learning and communities-based programs to reduce the out of school population by 70 percent in the first-term;
- ▶ Increase the percentage of trained teachers by 25 percent in the first term by strengthening the teachers' training institutes;
- ▶ Design programs geared towards prioritizing teachers' motivation, compensation, and wellbeing to attract teachers in rural communities;
- ▶ Strengthen curriculum implementation in every school and provide textbooks in all public schools at a ratio of 1:1 for effective teaching and learning;
- ▶ Review and amend policies and programs on Early Childhood Development (ECD) to conform to international standards;

Sanitation remains a critical area for human capital development. But our healthcare service delivery system continue to face various systemic challenges that affect efficient healthcare delivery and the provision of basic water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) services. Majority of our people continue lack access to safely managed drinking water and sanitation services, and remain exposed to poor hygiene practices which negatively impact their overall health status, especially for our children who most often get sick and have to leave school. Our administration will be committed to ensuring that all Liberians irrespective of their geographical location, age, gender, socio-economic or political status have access to high-quality, efficient, and cost-effective healthcare services.

Safe drinking water, proper sanitation and hygiene present a tremendous asset to the survivability of any society, whether in a high, middle, or low-income country. Nearly the entire population of Liberia lacks access to properly manage Water, Sanitation & Hygiene (WASH) programs as targeted by the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Under the previous UP-led administration, the WASH Commission was created to develop and manage the sector. While access to improved water sources has risen in Liberia from 62.4% in 2000 to 76.5% in 2015, less than 4% of Liberians benefit from pipe-borne water and only 17% of the population has access to improved sanitation (WHO and UNICEF, 2023). Therefore, the WASH Sector remains a priority for major investment.

- ▶ Support and strengthen the National WASH Commission to effectively perform its statutory mandate to the Liberian society;
- ▶ Reintroduce sanitary and hygiene inspections at community levels, in keeping with the Public Health law of Liberia, to enforce proper hygiene practices at household and community levels;
- ▶ Ensure communities have access to safe and clean-drinking water and sanitation facilities;
- ▶ Ensure that all municipal and city governments enforce proper waste collection and disposal as well as sewage management statutes within their jurisdictions;
- ▶ Develop a program that ensures every rural community is provided safe drinking water under an arrangement that is sustained by the citizens themselves;
- ▶ Encourage the private sector to take interest in developing a program for recycling solid municipal waste, and providing support for improved sanitation and the provision of clean and renewable energy for the general population;
- ▶ Support and strengthen city governments and municipalities across Liberia's 15 counties and cities to provide WASH services;  
Improve Water and Sanitation Services Delivery across the country;
- ▶ Support and strengthen the National WASH Commission to effectively perform its statutory mandate;
- ▶ Reintroduce sanitary and hygiene inspections at community levels, in keeping with the Public Health law of Liberia which requires the enforcement of hygiene practices at household and community levels;
- ▶ Ensure that municipal governments enforce proper waste management collection and disposal as well as sewage management within their jurisdictions;
- ▶ Develop programs to ensure urban and rural communities are provided sustainable safe drinking water and sanitation services;

- ▶ Support the private sector in developing programs for recycling solid waste into producing renewable energy;
- ▶ Ensure Liberia Water & Sewage Corporation (LWSC) develops and implements programs in line with its statutory mandate to increase productivity through adequate service delivery;
- ▶ Develop and Maintain a Healthy Environment
- ▶ Empower EPA to co-ordinate, integrate, harmonize, and monitor implementation of environmental policy;
- ▶ Promote environmental awareness through public participation using formal and informal education channels about the protection and sustainable management of the environment;
- ▶ Enforce environmental laws, guidelines, regulation, and policies across the countries and hire competent people at the EPA to management our environmental regulatory regimes;
- ▶ Support communities' participation in environmental management programs and encourage them to engage into forest and bio-diversity conservation;
- ▶ Ensure Availability of Medicines and Medical Supplies to Enhance Effective Healthcare Delivery;
- ▶ Strengthen our engagement with donor partners for their supports in the procurement, storage, and distribution of medicines, diagnostics, medical supplies, and equipment;
- ▶ Provide increased budgetary support to MOH for the procurement and uninterrupted supply of essential medicines and supplies throughout the country;
- ▶ Evaluate the status of the National Drug Service/Central Medical Store (NDS/CMS) and take actions to resolve the many leadership, logistics and operational challenges at the institution;
- ▶ Develop non-financial incentive packages to recruit and retain needed health workers, particularly in underserved areas, to include: housing facilities, electrification, running water, cable tv and furnitures;
- ▶ Develop and strengthen continuing educational programs to meet the professional needs of the health-sector workers;
- ▶ Sustain scholarship programs to reduce students' drop-out, and encourage the enrollment of students from underserved areas to enhance geographical representation for training health workers;
- ▶ Improve the physical facilities, instructional and learning environments at various medical and paramedical training institutions such as: A. M. Dogliotti College of Medicine (AMDCM), School of Pharmacy (SP), School of Public Health (SPH), Tubman National Institute of Medical Arts (TNIMA), Liberia College of Physicians & Surgeons (LCPS), to strengthen the quality and quantity of the health workforce;

**T**ourism remains largely underdeveloped despite the fact that Liberia is endowed with natural habitats and scenic spots that make it suitable designation for tourists from worldwide. Notable among these include areas such as Lake Piso in Cape Mount County, Lake Shepherd in Maryland County, Kpatawee waterfall in Bong County, Sapo National Park in Sinoe County, the Nimba reserve in Nimba County, the Magical and dynamic Gibi Mountain in Margibi county, and even the coastline and natural vegetation along with the warm culture of the hospitable people of Liberian. The historical Providence Island associated with the transatlantic slave trade and the repatriation of free slaves from America, Edina associated with AMERCO-Liberian, Hotel Africa with connection to AU meetings, and the Ducor Hill are also among other sites of historical significance that could serve as unique points of attraction to more tourists. Our administration will undertake the followings to exploit the tourism potential of our country:

The landscape of Liberia remains largely untapped and underdeveloped, yet it maintains a natural beauty for a thriving tourism industry.

The UP-led government will promote tourism by taking the following actions:

- ▶ Establish a National Tourism and Culture Authority (NTCA) to develop and manage the tourism sector a robust plan for tourism and culture (covering contemporary art, music and film);
- ▶ Designate Grand Cape Mount County as a national tourism center due to its natural endowment;
- ▶ Strengthen collaboration between NTCA and the Ministry of Internal Affairs (MIA) in rehabilitating old cultural and historic landmarks sites, churches, schools, traditional shrines;
- ▶ Invest in the tourism industry and promote Liberian culture to create jobs;
- ▶ Preserve and name cultural landscapes, heritage sites to support tourism development and provide incentives to Liberians and foreign investors to invest in the tourism industry;
- ▶ Enact into law a coherent policy to promote the development and preservation of Liberian cultural heritage for tourism;
- ▶ Collaborate with the fifteen (15) County Administrations to identify and develop historic sites, beaches, parks for tourism promotion
- ▶ Develop the needed infrastructure to create access to important tourism sites to enhance growth in the sector;

# THE LEADERSHIP WE NEED

Liberians need a national leadership that will **Think Liberia, Love Liberia and Build Liberia.**

## THE ATTRIBUTES OF AMBASSADOR BOAKAI

It is against this background that we present to you Ambassador Joseph N. Boakai:

- He is a humble public servant.
- He is a people centered leader.
- He loves Liberia and has loyalty to no other country.
- He shows no sense of arrogance.
- He is honest and possesses an excellent public service record. He is a nation builder.
- He is competent.
- He is a leader and thinks of the greater good of our country.
- He is a patriotic statesman with clean hands (from war and corruption)
- He relates to all Liberians in the same way.

# OUR STRATEGY FOR IMPLEMENTATION

The Unity Party National Strategy is based on a strong commitment to execute the 2023 Unity Party Platform bringing on board well-meaning and competent Liberians regardless of political affiliation, sex, or any other background. Our implementation strategy will be guided by five (5) approaches as stated below:

**Stakeholder Engagement:** An intensive and authentic collaboration and engagement with stakeholders, including multilateral, bilateral, private sector entities, civil society organizations, and local communities. Seek inputs, address concerns, and ensure that the National Development strategy aligns with the needs and aspirations of the people. Adopt a people-centered approach that focuses on all Liberians and utilizing their enormous potential. Furthermore, encourage and support public-private cooperation in the provision of basic services to all disadvantaged Liberians. Restructure the social welfare delivery system which includes improving the social infrastructures, social welfare services by ensuring social security programs. Develop a coordination framework between the welfare sector to operationalize the devolution of welfare functions to local government to promote increased access to social services;

**Capacity Building and Institutional Strengthening:** One of the key pathways to develop is the necessary infrastructure to develop the capacity of Liberians, and this was a mantra though the UP-led government. This strategy placed more competent people to lead the country development efforts and made it glaring that public institution must be staff with the right people with the knowledge and skills. This is a strategy that the UP-led government must return to. The government must invest in building the capacity of Ministries, Agencies and Commissions (MACs) responsible for planning, resource mobilization, projects and programs development and management. Enhance skills and knowledge in areas such as development planning, project development and financing, policy development, and the development and implementation of the appropriate regulatory environment frameworks. We will promote hard-work, honesty, and diligence as a national traits. Combine the creativity and team-spirit inherent in Liberians with international best practices to guarantee improved productivity in governance.

**Policy and Regulatory Framework:** At the top of this UP-led national strategy is the establishment of clear policies and regulatory frameworks to ensure fair competition, promotes safety and environmental standards and encourages sustainable best practices. This must be the mandate of the leadership team in the execution and performance of the functions of MACs. The policies will be rigorously followed without compromises. The strategy will aggressively review the mandates and functions of government ministries,

agencies and commissions to ensure efficiency and minimize waste in the governance system. Our national pursuit is to prudently manage resources generated from domestic and external sources in line with the both public financial management and procurement law to enhance economic and social development.

**Public-Private Partnerships:** the strategy envisions investments by exploring opportunities for public-private partnerships (PPPs) to attract private sector investments and expertise needed to support the national development agenda by closing the current resource gap for the needed investments in major infrastructures. Working with bilateral and multilateral partners, using domestic resource mobilization architectures will be a key resource mobilization strategy.

**Monitoring and Evaluation:** UP-led government is required to develop a robust monitoring and evaluation framework to assess the progress of implementation, track key performance indicators, and make necessary adjustments. Regularly review the execution processes of programs and projects as a matter of must and update the government long-term development plan adapting to the changing needs and emerging trends will be at the forefront of achieving set national goals. Furthermore, responsible sector ministries, agencies and or commissions are required to develop methodology coordinating with the legislature where applicable to achieve national development outcomes. MACs are required to use a Systematic Result Oriented Monitoring and Evaluation Framework to track progress.

In short, the UP-led government's strategy for a progressive Liberia is based on your endorsement of a social contract that the Unity Party is expected to sign with Ambassador Boakai working with all auxiliary groups, well-wishers, sympathizers and collaborating parties by holding us accountable to this platform. One action that is required of the Liberian people is to elect Ambassador Boakai October 10, 2023 to lead Liberia into prosperity!!



