

# FOOD AND ENTERPRISE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM FOR LIBERIA (FED)

**BI-WEEKLY REPORT: AUGUST 1-15, 2012**



**AUGUST 2012**

This publication was produced for review by the United States Agency for International Development. It was prepared by DAI/FED.

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**Program Title:** Food and Enterprise Development Program for Liberia (FED)  
**Sponsoring USAID Office:** USAID/Liberia  
**Contract Number:** 669-C-00-11-00047-00  
**Contractor:** DAI  
**Date of Publication:** August 15, 2012  
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**COVER PHOTO:** Cassava Training at Tonglaywin Town Demonstration site, Nimba County.

### **DISCLAIMER**

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## Geographic Reach of FED



# MAJOR ACCOMPLISHMENTS & ONGOING ACTIVITIES

AUGUST 1- 15, 2012

## COMPONENT ONE: INCREASED AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTIVITY

This report highlights activities carried out from August 1 – 15, 2012.

### ACCOMPLISHMENTS

In Nimba County:

- At one of the seven demonstration sites, 25 farmers with 0.6 hectare of land have completed transplanting lowland rice. Transplanting of lowland rice continues at six sites with 150 farmers on 3.6 hectares of land.
- 75 farmers with 1.8 hectares of land have completed planting cassava and 50 farmers with 1.2 hectares of land continue planting cassava..

In Lofa County:

- 25 farmers with 0.6 hectare of land have completed transplanting lowland rice and 50 farmers with 1.2 hectares of land have completed the planting of upland rice.
- 100 cassava farmers have completed the planting of cassava on 2 hectares of land each.

In Grand Bassa County:

- 25 farmers with 0.6 hectare of land have completed transplanting lowland rice and four demonstration sites with 100 farmers with 2.4 hectares continues to transplant lowland rice.
- All five demonstration sites for cassava, with 150 farmers with 2 hectares of land each, continue to plant cassava.

In Bong County:

- All five demo sites for lowland rice, with 150 farmers with 3 hectares of land continue to transplant the rice.
- All five demo sites for cassava, with 150 farmers with 2 hectares of land each, continue to plant cassava.

**Peri Urban Vegetable Production** - Preparation of the vegetable seedling production training program will start on August 20th in all six counties with 18 trainees.

## **Goat Interventions**

- FED has now officially partnered with the USDA Goat Value Chain program being implemented by Land O'Lakes in Liberia. FED and Land O'Lakes will be jointly identifying goat producers as "Lead" farmers for joint programming / assistance and coordinating the use of each program's resources to strategically support the development of the Goat Sub-sector in Liberia.
- Final discussions surrounding the implementation of the National PPR goat vaccination campaign is in the final stages of negotiation with BRAC and FED. The Purchase Order will be finalized this week and the campaign will officially launch next week.

## **Doumpa Community Project**

The Doumpa Community Project has started harvesting its vegetables (bitter ball and eggplant). Six bags of bitter-balls (45kg each) and one bag of eggplants (50kg) was produced in the first harvest. The second harvest is scheduled for August 20, 2012. Over the next five months, all crops harvested will immediately be sold at local markets.

## **COMPONENT TWO: STIMULATE PRIVATE ENTERPRISE**

- A three-day Business Management Skills Training for SMEs (vegetables and cassava farmers) was held in Grand Bassa County with 30 participants (20 males and 10 females).
- A two-day mentorship session on developing a Business Plan was held in Monrovia for SMEs. The session brought together 13 participants (9 males and 4 females).

## **COMPONENT THREE: BUILD LOCAL HUMAN CAPACITY**

- FED launched a pilot phase of its internship program on July 31, 2012 at the UL Auditorium. To date, 60 interns have signed contracts with FED and have been placed around the country with public institutions, INGOS, and farm enterprises. Eighty five percent of the interns have already begun work at 17 institutions, including FED.
- **Monitoring and Evaluation**
- The FED M&E team discussed status of FED crop and livestock performance monitoring with USAID.
- Started drafting a crop and livestock performance monitoring manual.
- Discussed proposed goat and livestock development strategy and monitoring system with the Goat Value Chain Specialist.

## **ONGOING ACTIVITIES**

- Vegetables training and follow-up on rainy season vegetables, rice, and cassava production continues.
- Preliminary planning for next year's vegetable, rice, and cassava programs is underway..

- Transplanting of seedlings (92 seedlings of collards greens and 230 seedlings of cabbage) is ongoing in Margibi and Montserrado Counties.