Early Warning System

WB-P508345

Liberia Forest Economy Project (LiFE-P)

Quick Facts

Countries	Liberia
Financial Institutions	World Bank (WB)
Status	Proposed
Bank Risk Rating	A
Voting Date	2026-10-22
Borrower	Government of Liberia - Forestry Development Authority
Sectors	Agriculture and Forestry, Climate and Environment
Investment Type(s)	Loan
Investment Amount (USD)	$ 40.00 million
Project Cost (USD)	$ 45.40 million

Project Description

According to the Bank’s website, the objective of this project is to improve forest governance, expand community-managed forests, and increase income and jobs for forest-dependent people in selected areas of Liberia.

This project seeks to capitalize on the former Liberia Forest Sector Project's achievements and lessons learned to boost Liberia's forest economy and to meet its NDC targets by improving the governance of the forestry sector, the interventions related to conservation, and commercial activities, and the participation of communities' vis a vis income generation and alternative livelihoods. The World Bank's Global Challenge on Forests for Development, Climate and Biodiversity (GCP-F) provides a framework for addressing key challenges of Liberia's forestry sector improving the lives of people living in and around forests and bringing a cohesive framework for national commitments. It can provide the foundation for a long-term forest economy as well as the foundation for climate financing.

Early Warning System Project Analysis

Environmental risk is rated **Substantial**. While the project is designed to enhance forest management and local livelihoods, planned activities may generate medium-scale impacts that are largely temporary and reversible, with potential cumulative effects on biodiversity-rich and sensitive forest areas. Key risks associated with Components 2 and 3: community resource management, forest restoration, timber plantations/woodlots, and small-scale processing— potential for habitat disturbance, soil erosion, water pollution, and invasive species without strong planning and monitoring. Expanded NTFP harvesting may cause overexploitation and ecosystem disruption if not sustainably managed. Alternative livelihoods (beekeeping, aquaculture) and rubber plantation rehabilitation can create localized impacts if poorly managed. Park/ecotourism infrastructure may generate noise/vibration, soil erosion, dust, solid/hazardous waste, and wastewater discharges. Forest harvesting risks include habitat alteration, biodiversity loss, water quality and soil productivity decline, hazardous materials issues, and visual impacts. Sawmilling/wood products manufacturing will introduce additional issues: solid waste, air emissions, wastewater, noise, and fire risks.

The project has a **substantial** social risk due to its work in protected areas, increased labor influx, potential displacement/involuntary resettlement, use of security personnel, potential child labor, gender based violence, and the possibility of excluding vulnerable groups such as women, marginalized youth, and persons with disabilities.

Investment Description

- World Bank (WB)

Total Project Cost: US$ 45.40 million

IDA Credit: US$ 40.00 million

Global P'ship for Sust. and Resilient Landscapes - PROGREEN: US$ 5.40 million

Contact Information

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ACCESS TO INFORMATION

To submit an information request for project information, you will have to create an account to access the Access to Information request form. You can learn more about this process at: https://www.worldbank.org/en/access-to-information/request-submission

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Bank Documents

- Concept Environmental and Social Review Summary (ESRS) - Liberia Sustainable Forest Economy Project
- Concept Project Information Document (PID)
- Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF) Liberia Forest Economy Project (LiFE-P) (P50834
- Resettlement Framework Liberia Forest Economy Project (LiFE-P) (P508345)
- Resettlement Process Framework Liberia Forest Economy Project (LiFE-P) (P508345)