



Implementation Strategy for SEEA Central Framework in Liberia



Kampala, Uganda



OUTLINES

- Taskforce on Environmental Issues
- Environmental-Economic Issues
- Current Priority on Environmental-Economic Issues
- Constraints
- Way forward

Review of Liberia Ecosystem

- Liberia is located on the West Coast of Africa with an area of 38,000 sq. miles.
- The major economic activities in rural Liberia are agriculture, mining and quarry. Agriculture activities mostly involve shifting cultivation except for large scale cash crop producers.
- In the past, most urban communities used beach sand for construction. However, the GOL banned the extraction of beach sand, thus substituting to river

Taskforce on Environment Issues

- The GOL established the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) with the aim of developing and implementing policy to protect Liberia's ecosystem;
- LISGIS has an Environmental Statistics Section under the Division of Social Statistics consisting of 2 staff task with the responsibility of collaborating with the EPA on environment statistics issues.

Environmental-Economic Issues

Several environmental-economic issues have been identified that:

- Off-shore Oil Exploration that may posed threat to Liberia ecosystem
- Mining and quarrying which are resulting in soil leaching
- Water pollution due to unsafe disposal of garbage
- Carbon emission as the result of Burning and burying of garbage especially those containing objects that do not easily decay (plastic objects), personal fuel generators for power etc.
- Deforestation by the increasing demand for heat energy (charcoal) to use for food, etc.
- Energy use by personal generator

Current Priority of Environmental- Economic Issues

The prevailing environmental situations resulted in several stakeholders meetings. An agreement was reached to derive a Environmental Framework.

An Environmental Framework is currently being drafted by the EPA in collaboration with LISGIS focal staff to address key issues involving the environment.

Currently, there are no environmental accounting data that have been collected. Hence, this aware will serve as the driver towards the step of compiling Environmental-Economic Statistics.

Constraints

There are several challenges that will slow the pace the of implementing the SEEA Framework:

- Limited capacity to compile environmental statistics relevant to the SEEA framework.
- Inaccessibility of staff to some locations or information where environmental pollution are occurring such as the off-shore oil exploration site, garbage collection in the urban suburb and rural communities.
- The level of deforestation/land use and it impact in the rural parts of the country according to SEEA

WAY FORWARD

It is essential to collect information that are important for policymaking especially to monitor and evaluate indicators that provide better understanding on the level of impact such is having on the environment and humanity.

- NSO to Identify data available/ can be obtained on environmental accounting according to SEEA Framework.
- Develop capacity to go beyond the point of compiling data that may be available, but require support or guidance to collect or compile.
- Provide support where there are needs to collect the require data.

THANK YOU!