



LIBERIA SEED SECTOR INVESTMENT ROUNDTABLE *COMMUNIQUE*



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1. Preamble

The Liberia Seed Sector Investment Roundtable was successfully convened on 30 April 2026 in Monrovia, bringing together senior government officials, development partners, international financial institutions, private sector actors, research organizations, farmer groups, and regional representatives. The Roundtable was organized under the leadership of the Ministry of Agriculture, with support from the Technologies for African Agricultural Transformation (TAAT) program and its partners.

The event was held against the backdrop of growing food security challenges across Africa driven by climate change, global supply chain disruptions, economic shocks, and conflicts. Participants recognized the urgency of strengthening national agri-

cultural systems—particularly seed systems—as a cornerstone for resilience, productivity growth, and sustainable food security. The Roundtable further acknowledged the catalytic role of continental initiatives such as the African Emergency Food Production Facility (AEFPF), which has demonstrated the transformative potential of coordinated investments in improved seed systems, fertilizer access, and institutional strengthening across Africa.

2. Purpose and Objectives

The primary objective of the Roundtable was to mobilize financial and technical partnerships to support the implementation of Liberia’s Seed

Roadmap and Investment Plan (2025–2030), aligned with the National Agriculture Development Plan (NADP). Specifically, the Roundtable aimed to:

- Showcase priority investment opportunities across key agricultural value chains
- Engage development finance institutions, donors, and private investors
- Promote public–private partnerships (PPPs) and blended finance approaches
- Align stakeholder interventions and investments
- Define priority financing areas and mechanisms for the period 2026–2030

3. Partners and Stakeholders

- The roundtable was organized under the political leadership of a Representative (Hon. Minister Mamaka Bility) of the Office of the President, His Excellency Joseph Nyuma Boakai and the Hon. Minister of Agriculture, Hon. Alexander Nuetah.
- Development and Financial Partners in Liberia present included AfDB, FAO, IFAD, WFP, EU, France (Agence Française de Développement), UNDP, GIZ, Ireland, JICA, and Chinese projects, IFI funded large-scale agricultural investment projects, and commercial Banks.
- National stakeholders, included senior officials and representatives from MoA, MFDP, SDCA, CARI, Agricultural-Related Universities, National Seed Board (NSD), Farmer Organisation, National Fisheries and Aquaculture Authority (NaFAA), Seed companies, LACRA, etc.
- International partners were IITA/TAAT, AfDB, IITA, AfricaRice, CGIAR-Scaling for Impact program.

4. Key Highlights from the Roundtable

4.1 Strategic Importance of Seed Systems

Participants reaffirmed that access to quality seeds, planting materials, and fish fingerlings is fundamental to improving agricultural productivity, enhancing food security, and reducing import dependency in Liberia. A functional seed system was recognized as a critical enabler for achieving the goals of the NADP and the broader agricultural transformation agenda.

4.2. Alignment with National and Regional Frameworks

The Liberia Seed Roadmap and Investment Plan was noted to be fully aligned with national priorities, including: The National Agriculture Development Plan (2024–2030); the Liberia Dakar 2 Compact and





Regional seed harmonization frameworks under ECOWAS. The Roundtable emphasized the importance of maintaining coherence between national policies and regional market integration to unlock cross-border seed trade and investment opportunities.

4.3 Priority Value Chains

The Roundtable highlighted five priority value chains targeted under the seed roadmap: Rice, Cassava, Maize, Soybean and Aquaculture. These value chains were selected based on their strategic importance for food security, nutrition, income generation, and agro-industrial development.

4.4 Investment Needs and Opportunities

Participants reviewed the investment requirements across the priority value chains, including:

- Development of seed production infrastructure and irrigation systems
- Expansion of certified seed production for rice, maize, and soybean
- Scaling up cassava planting material systems
- Development of aquaculture hatchery systems

and fingerling supply

- Strengthening early generation seed systems
- Digital platform for seed traceability, distribution networks and last-mile delivery

The total investment envelope across these value chains represents a significant opportunity for both public and private sector engagement.

4.5 Progress Achieved

The Roundtable commended the Government of Liberia for notable progress in strengthening the seed sector, including:

- Operationalization of the Seed Development and Certification Agency (SDCA)
- Establishment of ECOWAS-aligned seed certification systems
- Introduction of a national seed quality assurance framework
- Capacity building of certified seed professionals
- Increased participation of private seed companies

These achievements were recognized as critical foundations for scaling a sustainable and market-driven seed industry.

5. Key Outcomes and Commitments

Following some deliberations, the Roundtable reached the following key outcomes:

5.1 Partner Alignment

Development partners, financial institutions, and private sector actors expressed strong alignment with Liberia's Seed Roadmap and committed to integrating its priorities into their ongoing and future programs (Annex 1).

5.2 Investment Commitments

Participants announced initial commitments and



indicated strong interest in:

- Financing seed production and distribution systems
- Supporting early generation seed systems
- Investing in seed companies and agribusiness enterprises
- Providing technical assistance and capacity development

5.3 Strengthening Public-Private Partnerships

The Roundtable underscored the importance of PPPs as a central mechanism for delivering sus-

tainable seed system investments. Stakeholders committed to developing structured PPP models to de-risk private sector participation and crowd in additional capital.

5.4 Blended Finance Mechanisms

Participants agreed to explore innovative financing instruments, including blended finance, guarantees, and concessional funding, to bridge investment gaps and support scalable seed sector interventions.

5.5 Institutional Coordination

The Roundtable reaffirmed the need to strengthen coordination mechanisms among government institutions, development partners, and private actors through a national seed sector platform.

6. Agreed Priority Actions (2026–2030)

Participants agreed on the following priority actions to accelerate implementation:

- 1. Scale Certified Seed Production**
Expand production capacity across priority crops to meet increasing national demand.
- 2. Strengthen Early Generation Seed Systems**
Enhance research–extension linkages and ensure availability of breeder and foundation seeds.
- 3. Promote Private Sector Development**
Support seed companies through financing, technical assistance, capacity building and regulatory facilitation.
- 4. Enhance Quality Assurance Systems**
Fully operationalize certification and inspection systems to eliminate counterfeit seeds.
- 5. Establishment of Functional Seed Testing Laboratory**
Invest in seed testing laboratories



Technologies for African Agricultural Transformation (TAAT)

- and certification systems to ensure seed quality
6. **Improve Seed Distribution Networks**
Strengthen last-mile delivery systems to ensure timely access for farmers.
 7. **Develop Aquaculture Seed Systems**
Invest in hatcheries and fish seed production to support aquaculture expansion.
 8. **Mobilize Sustainable Financing**
Establish a coordinated financing framework leveraging public, private, and donor resources.

7. Monitoring and Accountability

Participants agreed to establish a robust monitoring and evaluation framework to track progress on:

- Investment commitments
- Implementation of roadmap priorities
- Seed system performance indicators
- Impact on productivity, food security, and livelihoods

The Ministry of Agriculture, in collaboration with TAAT and partners, will lead the coordination of reporting and follow-up actions.

7. Next Steps

Next Steps to Establish a Liberia Seed Partners Roundtable

Action	Responsible	Timeline
1. Preparation of the Roundtable Communiqué.	TAAT, MOA, SDCA	1st to 5th May 2026
2. Consolidation and formalization of investment commitments	MOA, SDCA, MFDP & TAAT	1st to 6th May
3. Following up on the investment commitments to finance and coordinate technical assistance for seed system development.	MFDP, MOA & SDCA	6th to 15th May
4. Establishing national seed sector partnership coordination roundtable (with thematic working groups) to support implementation of the seed policy, roadmap, and investment plan with ToR	MOA, SDCA, MOF	15th May to 30th June
5. Convening of follow-up technical sessions and investor engagements	MOA, SDCA & MFDP	15th July
6. Operationalization of the national seed sector coordination platform by holding periodic roundtables	MOA, SDCA & MFDP	15th July

8. Conclusion

The Liberia Seed Sector Investment Roundtable marked a significant milestone in advancing the country’s agricultural transformation agenda. It demonstrated strong political commitment, partner alignment, and growing investor confidence in Liberia’s seed sector. Participants expressed optimism that the implementation of the Seed Roadmap and Investment Plan will:

- Increase agricultural productivity and production
- Improve national food security and nutrition

- Reduce reliance on food imports
- Strengthen rural livelihoods and reduce poverty
- Build a resilient and competitive agricultural sector

All stakeholders reaffirmed their commitment to sustained collaboration and collective action to ensure the successful transformation of Liberia’s seed system.

**Adopted in Monrovia,
Liberia, on 30 April 2026**

Annex 1: Initial Commitments

The European Union which supports the Seed4Liberia program with strong private sector participation indicated its priority value chains as cassava, rice, soybean, coffee and fisheries and her quest to discuss the gap further with the government and used the systems approach to address them. The EU agrees to the expansion of the irrigation system to increase rice production and will support private sector-led cassava seed multiplication system. The Seed4Liberia program will support cassava and rice seed production and the use of the by-productions from processing to develop fish feed through the creation of businesses and other income generating enterprises.

JICA pledged its technical assistance to a market-oriented economy and the blue economy, small holder expression market approach, training of the private sector in rice, aquaculture, and vegetables and will support seed sector through this approach. In support of the seed sector, the agency will continue to provide technical assistance to irrigated rice production, small area production, the private sector, local entities, nutrition enriching initiatives for babies to curb stunting.

IFAD – is committed to continue its ongoing program in scaling quality certified seeds through its collaboration with the Seed Development and Certification Agency (SDCA). Additional support is currently being discussed with MOA and commitment will be expressed after the discussion to align all together.

AfDB (Continental) – AfDB is committed to support the Liberian agricultural development agenda through the implementation of its new projects including REWARD and the Agro-Industrial Processing program with a strong focus on strengthening the seed sector to supply quality certified seeds to the project beneficiaries.

UNDP is committed to continue its support to Liberia to achieve the MDGs and to support small

businesses. It's commitment to the subject will be expressed later through an engagement with MOA.

The Banks – The LBDI supports development financing. The Bank is funded through public financing and would like to give back to the government by providing customer-friendly, a more flexible long-term, affordable financing facility to enhance farmer access to finance and also champion development initiatives in the private sector through the operation of a de-risking instrument. The Bank is committed to work with the concerned Ministries to develop a policy framework that allows a more friendly de-risking credit facility with policy regulations that treats agricultural loans differently from commercial loans.

Based on its experience in achieving 7.2 million fingerlings production, the **National Fisheries and Aquaculture Authority (NaFAA)** will collaborate with the SDCA to upscale the innovative aquaculture introductions from the seed roadmap and investment plan in its operations to improve fish productivity.

Central Agricultural Research Institute (CARI) expressed its commitment to expand its operations in the maintenance of the cassava gene bank, the multiplication, scaling and supply of cassava cuttings, early generation seed production of rice; the institute however will require sustainable funding support.

IITA and AfricaRice are committed to support variety testing, EGS production, capacity building of seed sector stakeholders, support to a functional seed system platform, learning visits, seed business development and private sector engagements.

Other partners such as the World Bank, FAO, and others that were not able to participate, will be approached by the Ministry of Agriculture and the Ministry of Finance and Development Planning.

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