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President Boakai Announces Plan to Establish Palm and Vegetable Oil Refinery

During his State of the Nation Address, President Joseph Boakai unveiled plans to establish a palm and vegetable oil refinery aimed at boosting commercial production and strengthening Liberia's agro-processing sector.

The initiative, which aligns with the government's broader agenda for economic diversification and industrialization, is expected to enhance value addition in the agricultural sector and reduce the country's dependency on imported refined oil products.



This move is part of the government's broader **economic diversification strategy**, which prioritizes investment in agriculture, manufacturing, and value-added industries to reduce reliance on raw commodity exports. [Read more on this article](#)

Liberia Embarks on Five Mechanize Farming Facilities Construction to Boost Agriculture Productivity

In his annual State of the Nation address, President Joseph Boakai announced the launch of a transformative initiative aimed at enhancing Liberia's agricultural productivity. The President revealed plans for the construction of five mechanization centers across the country mainly in Bong, Lofa, Margibi, Montserrado, and Nimba. These centers will provide smallholder farmers with access to essential machinery that will significantly improve their farming practices and overall production.

The mechanization centers will offer equipment such as tractors, plows, and other tools that are critical for scaling up agricultural operations, thus enabling farmers to increase crop yields and reduce labor-

intensive manual work. The move is part of the government's broader strategy to bolster the agricultural sector, which remains a vital source of livelihood for many Liberians.



The call for mechanization aligns with the CAADP's broader goal of transforming Africa's agricultural sector by promoting investments in modern farming techniques, irrigation systems, and agro-processing industries. Many African nations continue to struggle with low agricultural output due to outdated farming methods, limited access to mechanized tools, and inadequate infrastructure. [Read more on this article](#)

Lofa County University Agriculture Department Carrots Experimentation Shows Fruitful Result

The Agriculture Department of Lofa County University has successfully cultivated carrots, proving that certain crops can indeed thrive in Liberia's soil and climate, contrary to widespread misconceptions. This groundbreaking development comes as a relief to local farmers who had long believed that crops like carrots could not grow in the country's conditions.



The successful carrot cultivation was led by a dedicated team of agricultural experts and students from the university. The project aims to not only demonstrate the viability of growing such crops in Liberia but also to inspire smallholder farmers to diversify their farming practices. [Read more about this story](#)

MOA Promotes Locally Grown Food, Supplies Hospitals and Prisons

Ministry of Agriculture on Tuesday, January 28, 2025, reinforced its commitment to food security and local empowerment by donating a significant quantity of locally grown food items to the Ministries of Health and Justice. This initiative is part of the government's **“Liberians Feed Yourselves Agenda,”** which promotes producing and consuming locally produced food while supporting essential public services.

The donation to the Ministry of Health included 100 bags of 50 kg rice, 10 bags of gari, three bags of beans (locally known as “Kpaku torweh”), and one bag of organic baby food. These items are intended to enhance the nutrition of patients in hospitals. Additionally, 50 bags of rice were provided to the Ministry of Justice to improve meal provisions for inmates in correctional facilities.



The donation is seen as a milestone in promoting the integration of local agriculture into the nation's development priorities, reflecting the government's vision of a self-reliant and nutritionally secure Liberia. [Follow this link to read more.](#)

FAO Liberia Engages Stakeholders on to Consolidate Efforts for Youth in Agrifood Systems

FAO Liberia recently hosted a stakeholder engagement session bringing together representatives from both the public and private sectors to discuss the KOICA-funded project, Green Jobs for Youth in Resilient Agrifood Systems. The engagement aimed to enhance the involvement of various stakeholders in defining the scope of the

project, ensuring that its impact is maximized while prioritizing sustainability.



The initiative focuses on creating green jobs for youth in Liberia, fostering resilience within the country's agrifood systems. By encouraging the active participation of both public and private sector stakeholders, FAO Liberia aims to align efforts and resources to promote long-term growth in the sector. The collaborative approach is expected to create sustainable employment opportunities while addressing key environmental challenges. [Follow this link to read more](#)

MoA Launches Lowland Rice Harvest in Bong

On January 17, 2025, the Ministry of Agriculture, in collaboration with its partners, officially launched the harvest of a lowland rice farm managed by the Rice, Cassava, and Vegetables Producers and Processor Union of Liberia.

The farm, spanning over five hectares near Dolokelen Gboveh High School, is supported under the African Development Bank-funded Emergency Rice Production Offensive (ERPO) program. This initiative is designed to increase local rice production, reduce dependency on imports, and empower farmers through advanced techniques and resources

The harvest ceremony was attended by government officials, local farmers, and representatives from agricultural organizations operating in Bong County. Speaking on behalf of the Minister of Agriculture, Dr. Alexander J.

Nuetah, the Deputy Minister for Regional Development, Research, and Extension, Mr. Moses R. Gbanyan, underscored the Ministry's commitment to supporting local farmers.



The success of this lowland rice farm serves as a model for future agricultural projects across Bong County and beyond. Initiatives like these are vital to achieving self-sufficiency in food production, building a resilient agricultural sector, and addressing the challenges posed by climate change and economic uncertainties.

[Click on the link to read more.](#)

Agriculture Ministry Trains Field Staff to Drive National Agriculture Development Plan (NADP)

The Ministry of Agriculture (MOA) has completed a landmark initiative to strengthen Liberia's agricultural extension services and fast-track the country's agricultural transformation under the National Agriculture Development Plan (NADP).



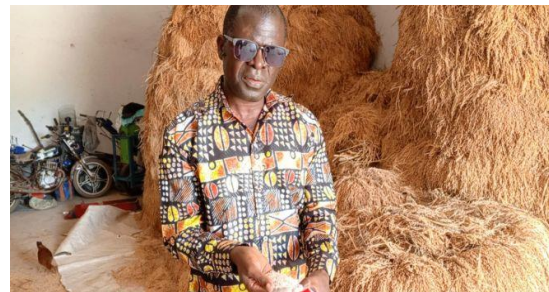
A workshop themed "Taking NADP to the People" was held at the Central Agricultural Research Institute (CARI) in Suakoko, Bong County, gathering over 100 field staff, including Regional Agriculture Coordinators (RACs),

County Agriculture Coordinators (CACs), and District Agriculture Officers (DAOs). The goal of the workshop was to provide these field officers with the tools and skills needed to effectively implement NADP in their respective regions.

Agriculture Minister Dr. J. Alexander Nuetah, addressing the participants, underscored the significance of the training. He stated: *"This workshop marks a fundamental step in transforming Liberia's agriculture. Your commitment to this mission will define the success of our farmers and the communities you serve."* [Read more by clicking this link](#)

EPA Executive Director Urges Support for Lowland Rice Farmers, Calls for Buyers

The Executive Director of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) of Liberia, Dr. Emmanuel Urey Yarkpawolo has called on Liberians to embrace lowland rice farming as a sustainable solution to protect forests, reduce dependence on imported food, and strengthen the economy. He also appealed to major buyers, such as Mary's Meals, the World Food Program (WFP), and other stakeholders, to purchase rice from local farmers to help them reinvest in their farms and improve their livelihoods.



Dr. Yarkpawolo reaffirmed his commitment to promoting environmentally friendly agriculture and encouraged policymakers, businesses, and communities to rally behind initiatives like the Kwapageh Cooperative. [Get more on this story by clicking the link.](#)

Liberia Reaffirms its Commitment CAADP to Revolutionize Africa's Agri-Food System

Liberia has reaffirmed its commitment to the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP) Declaration, which seeks to revolutionize Africa's agri-food systems by 2035. Vice President Jeremiah Kpan Koung made this commitment when he delivered a special statement at the African Union Extra-Ordinary Summit on Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programmes (CAADP) in Kampala, Uganda



Vice President Koung emphasized Liberia's ongoing efforts to align its national agricultural strategies with the CAADP principles. **"Our government is prioritizing investments in smallholder farming, value chain development, and climate-resilient agricultural practices. These steps are critical to transforming Liberia's agricultural sector and boosting its contribution to economic growth,"** he added. [Read more by clicking this link](#)

A Renowned Church Leader and Farmer Calls for Increased Government Support for Liberia's Agriculture Sector

Rev. James S. Paye, Founder and Executive Director of the Rice, Cassava, and Vegetables Producers and Processors Union of Liberia, has issued a passionate call to the national government to increase its support for Liberia's agriculture sector, which he deems crucial for the nation's economic development and food security.



In a recent conversation with our reporter in Gbarnga, Rev. Paye highlighted the central role agriculture plays in Liberia's economy, providing livelihoods for a significant portion of the population. However, he also outlined numerous challenges faced by local farmers, including limited access to funding, modern farming techniques, and critical resources such as seeds and fertilizers. [Read more on this story](#)

A Dedicated Rice Farmer in Bong County Appeals for Government Support

Mark Jackson a dedicated rice farmer in Jorquelleh District Bong County with over two decades of experience, has tirelessly cultivated rice to sustain his family and bolster the local economy. Despite his steadfast commitment, escalating challenges have made his work increasingly difficult.

Jackson has faced rising costs for farming inputs such as seeds, fertilizers, and pesticides. Additionally, his tools and equipment have become worn and ineffective, hampering his productivity. "My tools are all old and worn out, hindering my work and reducing my effectiveness," Jackson shared, expressing his frustration.

Despite these setbacks, Jackson remains committed to his farming work. Recently, he harvested five hectares of rice, but his dream is to expand his farm and increase his yield, thereby providing more for his family and contributing to the local community's economic development.

In a bid for support, Jackson has called on the Ministry of Agriculture to assist him with the

necessary farming materials. “I hope that by reaching out to the government, I can get the support I need to continue farming and improve my livelihood,” he said.



As he waits for a response, Jackson continues to work tirelessly, maintaining his hope that his plea will be heard and acted upon. He believes that with the right resources, he can continue to thrive as a rice farmer and help contribute to the growth of Bong County. [Read more on this story](#)

Emerging Agricultural Cooperative Harvests Over 6 Hectares of Rice in Bong County

An emerging agricultural cooperative in Bong County has successfully harvested over six hectares of rice, marking a significant achievement in community-driven farming. Spearheaded by Josephine Williams, a passionate and experienced farmer, the cooperative has become a beacon of hope for local farmers seeking to improve their livelihoods.

Josephine Williams, a leader within the cooperative, has played a crucial role in its success. With her years of agricultural expertise and understanding of the local landscape, she

has empowered fellow farmers to increase crop yields and adapt to environmental changes.

The cooperative provides its members with essential resources, including seeds, fertilizers, and tools, alongside training in soil health, pest management, and irrigation techniques. This holistic approach has led to increased yields and improved produce quality. One of its standout initiatives is promoting organic farming practices, offering safer and more sustainable alternatives to chemical pesticides and fertilizers. This shift has not only enhanced the health of the farmers and their land but also opened up new markets locally.



Rev. Williams also commended the Ministry of Agriculture and its partners for providing funding but urged for continued support to minimize Liberia’s dependence on imported staple foods. [Read more on this development](#)

Moshav Liberia Concludes Successful Beekeeping Training in Gbarnga

Under the stewardship of CEO Jacob Dennis, Moshav Liberia successfully ended a comprehensive daylong training session on beekeeping at the Gbarnga School of Theology’s main campus on December 28, 2024.

The daylong Apiculture training attracted a diverse group of farmers and students from different Colleges and Universities eager to learn about the vital role bees play in Liberia’s ecosystem and sustainable agriculture.

According to Mr. Dennis, The training session was intended to educate attendees on the ecological benefits of bees, their global contributions to food production, and the

significance of beehives in promoting sustainable agricultural practices, especially in Rural areas like Bong County.



Moshav Liberia’s commitment to promoting sustainable agriculture and environmental stewardship through initiatives like this training session is paving the way for a greener future in Liberia.

Additionally, Mr. Dennis noted that Moshav Liberia plans to offer follow-up workshops and support for participants as they embark on their beekeeping journeys by 2025. [Read more on this story](#)

CDA to Launch Nationwide Registration of Cooperative Societies

The Cooperative Development Agency (CDA) has announced plans to commence a nationwide registration of cooperative societies in Liberia. The initiative is aimed at formalizing and streamlining cooperative operations across the country, thereby enhancing their contribution to national development.



The registration exercise will target all cooperative societies, including those in agriculture, fisheries, and other sectors. The exercise is scheduled to run from January 2 to January 31, 2025, and is designed to provide the CDA with comprehensive data on the cooperatives, assess their operations, and provide them with the necessary technical and institutional

support to improve their efficiency and impact. [Read more on this story](#)

Agronomist, Isaac F. Sulonteh Introduces New Varieties of Rice in Liberia

In a bold step toward transforming Liberia’s agriculture, Mr. Isaac F. Sulonteh, a Philippines-trained agronomist, is pioneering a breakthrough in rice production. At his “Zuritala Rice Multiplication Site” in Gbarnga, Bong County, Mr. Sulonteh showcased four high-yield rice varieties, positioning them as a cornerstone for achieving national food security.

The multiplication of four rice varieties—two inbred and two hybrid types—has great potential to increase Liberia’s domestic rice production. The varieties’ three-month maturity and adaptability to Liberia’s iron-toxic soils are key features that could make them a game-changer for local farmers.



As Liberia tackles food security challenges, Mr. Sulonteh’s innovative efforts at the Zuritala Rice Multiplication Site demonstrate how determination and innovation can shape a self-reliant agricultural future. [Read more this story](#)

RESADE Launches Workshop to Transform Farmer-Based Organizations and Strengthen Local Cooperatives

The Central Agricultural Research Institute (CARI) and the Cooperative Development Agency (CDA), in collaboration with the RESADE Project, have launched a three-day workshop in Buchanan to enhance Farmer-Based

Organizations (FBOs) and strengthen cooperative systems in Liberia.

Held under the theme “Improving Agricultural Resilience to Salinity Through Development and Promotion of Pro-Poor Technologies,” the workshop is funded by the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) and the Arab Bank for Economic Development in Africa (BADEA). Its goal is to equip participants with innovative tools and strategies to modernize FBOs and boost cooperative operations, fostering sustainable growth in the agricultural sector.



The workshop reflects a broader commitment to empowering Liberia’s agricultural sector, strengthening cooperatives, and enhancing resilience to climate challenges. It underscores the importance of collaboration among stakeholders in building a sustainable and thriving agricultural economy. [Read more here](#)

EPA Launches 32 Million Dollar Five-Year Environmental Protection Plan

The Government of Liberia, through the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) of Liberia, has officially launched a five-year strategic plan aimed at strengthening environmental governance and promoting sustainable development across the country.

The launch took place on Thursday, January 30, 2025, at the Belle Casa Hotel in Sinkor, Monrovia.

The event brought together government officials, civil society organizations, EPA partners, and international stakeholders.



The plan includes the establishment of EPA offices in all 15 counties to enhance local environmental governance. It also highlights the modernization of operational systems, including the digitization of Environmental and Social Impact Assessments (ESIAs), and the construction of four regional and one central environmental research and radio safety laboratories. [Read more on this story](#)

Liberia Advocates for Development Priorities at Forest Governance Forum in London

The Environmental Protection Agency of Liberia has called for stronger international partnerships to support the country’s environmental and development goals during a sideline meeting with officials of the British Foreign, Commonwealth, and Development Office at the Forest Governance, Markets, and Climate Forum.



The forum is taking place at Goodenough College in London, bringing together global stakeholders to discuss sustainable forestry and climate action.

Liberia's delegation, led by the EPA's Executive Director Dr. Emmanuel Urey Yarkpawolo used the meeting to outline the country's pressing priorities under the ARREST Agenda for Inclusive Development. The ARREST Agenda is an ambitious eight-billion-dollar development plan that aims to transform Liberia into a lower-middle-income country by 2030. [*Read more on this article.*](#)