



**RECOVERY OF ECONOMIC ACTIVITY FOR LIBERIAN INFORMAL  
SECTOR EMPLOYMENT (REALISE) PROJECT**  
Capitol Bye Pass, Old Maternity Center 1<sup>st</sup> Floor  
Monrovia-Liberia



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## **National Social Protection Steering Committee (NSPSC)**

### **Meeting Summary**

**Date:** August 13, 2025

**Venue:** Ministry of Gender, Children and Social Protection (MGCSP), Monrovia

**Time:** 10:32 AM – 1:45 PM

**Chair:** Hon. Curtis V. Dorley, Deputy Minister for Research, Policy & Planning (MGCSP), acting on behalf of Minister Gbeme Horace Kollie

### **Opening Session**

The meeting was opened by Hon. Curtis V. Dorley, who welcomed government officials, UN representatives, and social protection partners. Due to scheduling conflicts, Minister Kollie was absent.

The agenda was adjusted to allow opening remarks from key dignitaries. The UN Resident Coordinator, Madam Christine Umutoni, reaffirmed the UN's commitment to supporting Liberia's social protection agenda, stressing the importance of precise targeting for the most vulnerable. The revised agenda and previous meeting minutes were adopted, with participants emphasizing timely circulation of minutes before future meetings.

### **Policy, Strategy, and Systems Update**

#### **Presented by Mr. Aurelius Butler, National Coordinator for Social Protection**

- **National Policy & Strategy:**  
Progress has been made in refining the National Social Protection Policy, aimed at consolidating fragmented programs, strengthening targeting, and aligning with the ARREST Agenda for Inclusive Development. However, the initial consultant's contract ended prematurely, prompting a revised TOR to recruit a more competitive candidate.
- **County Structures:**  
A localized social protection structure has been successfully piloted in Grand Bassa

County. The model mirrors the national structure, chaired by the Gender Coordinator with the Ministry of Finance as Co-Chair, and demonstrates improved coordination and alignment. An MOU with the Ministry of Internal Affairs was suggested to institutionalize this model nationally.

- **Household Social Registry (LHSR):**

Now operational with data on over 300,000 households. It has been used by REALISE and GiveDirectly for targeting cash transfers. New features include planned self-enrolment and a partner dashboard, though concerns were raised about accessibility for populations without smartphones.

- **Mapping of Interventions:**

Government programs are already mapped, with INGO engagement beginning soon and data collection expected to conclude by early September. Preliminary findings show duplication (e.g., overlapping interventions in the same communities) and coverage gaps.

**Discussion:**

- SCT data disaggregation confirmed (e.g., by gender).
- Members stressed realistic approaches to self-enrolment.
- Minister Dorley called for capacity building for NSPSC members and technical focal persons.

**National Identification Registry (NIR) Update**

**Presented by Mr. Joseph Deema, Director of Enrolment, NIR**

- Over 733,000 citizens and legal residents have been enrolled.
- A presidential suspension order remains in effect until April 13, 2026, halting issuance of new ID numbers.
- NIR numbers remain valid for accessing services even without physical ID cards.
- Deema urged social protection actors to advocate for exemptions to ensure vulnerable beneficiaries can still access programs.
- NIR is expanding rural registration and reinforcing secure verification through APIs.

## **Partner and County-Level Updates**

- **UNICEF:** Supporting government with a consultant on social protection policy, budget planning, and institutional capacity building, including child-sensitive budgeting and fiscal decentralization.
- **NASSCORP:** Exploring partnerships to extend coverage to informal workers. Raised issue of government funding for NASSCORP's welfare component, tabled for further discussion.

## **Key Action Points**

1. **Social Registry:** Coordinator to present detailed methodology to NSPSC members.
2. **NIR:** To deliver a full presentation to support NSPSC's evidence-based recommendations to Cabinet.
3. **National Action Plan:** NSPSC to lead development of a comprehensive Social Protection NAP, integrating NASSCORP's welfare component.
4. **Meeting Minutes:** To be circulated at least one week before future meetings.

## **Closure**

The next meeting date will be set following consultations between the Minister and the National Coordinator. Hon. Dorley closed the meeting, thanking members for their active participation and reaffirming the government's commitment to inclusive and coordinated social protection.

# **National Social Protection Steering Committee (NSPSC) Meeting**

Date: August 13, 2025

Time: 10:00 AM – 11:30 AM

Venue: Ministry of Gender, Children and Social Protection

Chair: Hon. Gbeme Horace Kollie, Minister of Gender, Children and Social Protection

## **1. Opening Session (10 minutes)**

- Welcome Remarks – Hon. Gbeme Horace Kollie
- Adoption of Agenda
- Review and Approval of Minutes from Last Meeting

## **2. Policy, Strategy, and Systems Update (25 minutes)**

Objective: Provide a consolidated update on the policy revision process, county structures, social registry, and intervention mapping to inform next steps and resource mobilization.

- Status update on National Social Protection Policy and Strategy revision, including challenges and next steps
- Update on finalized County Social Protection Structures (Grand Bassa case study)
- Social Registry updates: coverage, data improvements, and interoperability
- Progress on mapping of social protection interventions: preliminary findings and data gaps
- Discussion: Strengthening political will, coordination, and use of tools for planning and targeting

## **3. Presentation from the National Identification Registry (NIR) and Discussion (30 minutes)**

Objective: Receive an update on the biometric ID rollout, implications for social protection inclusion, and opportunities for stakeholder coordination.

- Briefing by NIR on rollout status, timelines, and measures to ensure inclusion of vulnerable populations
- Clarification of recent policy directives and temporary measures regarding ID requirements for services
- Discussion and feedback from NSPSC members

## **4. Partner and County-Level Updates (15 minutes)**

- Brief interventions from development partners and county focal points

- Highlights of ongoing/planned programs
- Alignment with national social protection priorities
- Key asks from government

#### **5. Key Decisions and Next Steps (10 minutes)**

- Recap of agreed action points and responsibilities
- Set timeline for next meeting
- Any Other Business (AOB)