2 Liberia Logistics Infrastructure

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Roads

Despite the Ebola outbreak and other challenges affecting a post-conflict and fragile country, the Liberian government is making important strides to better connect the country’s remote areas with its capital Monrovia. Supported by the World Bank and other development partners, the Liberia Road Asset Management Project is building and rehabilitating some 250 kilometres of road from Monrovia to the Guinea border corridor to more effectively integrate the hinterland with the capital. Once completed, the flagship transport project will connect the entire country, reducing the risks of further fragility that often tends to affect more remote and disconnected areas, and bringing a broader socio-economic impact. China Chongqing International Construction Corporation (CICO), a construction firm, is currently rehabilitating Lot 1 of the Monrovia-Gbarnga-Ganta-Guinea border road corridor. “This is one of the largest road projects in a country with a huge infrastructure deficit currently trying to make up for the disruptions caused by the Ebola Virus Disease outbreak,” said World Bank Liberia Country Manager Inguna Dobraja. “The project will improve the dilapidated road infrastructure and connectivity that Liberians need to have access to markets and basic social services.” An estimated 300,000 people will directly benefit (51% being women) from an increased access to mobility, markets, and basic services like education and health facilities.

The project is financed by the World Bank and the Liberia Reconstruction Trust Fund (LRTF) for a total of $300 million. The LRTF is a multi-donor trust fund for infrastructure, which is supported by the European Union, and the governments of Great Britain (DfID), Sweden (Sida), Ireland (Irish Aid), Norway and Germany (KfW), and the World Bank. The LRTF is administered by the World Bank and supervised by an Oversight Committee comprising the Government of Liberia and contributing donors. An estimated US $323 million to transform Liberia’s roads Monrovia – Gbarnga and Gbarnga – Ganta to the Guinea border.

Energy

An estimated 216 MW of power to be produced by 2015:

- Financing has been secured and progress is underway on the Mount Coffee hydro plant.
- The Rural and Renewable Energy Agency (RREA) has been established with the aim to administer electrification to rural areas through renewable energy technologies.
- The Côte d’Ivoire–Liberia–Sierra Leone–Guinea (CLSG) Interconnection Project is being undertaken by the West African Power Pool (WAPP).

Sea Ports

Several initiatives are underway to improve port management and efficiency:

- The country has four ports: Monrovia, Buchanan, Greenville and Harper.
- Monrovia and Buchanan ports are International Ship and Port Facility Security (ISPS) Compliant.
- APM Terminals have been contracted to handle Monrovia port operations.
- China Union and Western Cluster will undertake further rehabilitation of Monrovia port under their concession agreements.
- The Ports Master Plan covering the next 25 years is being developed.

Airports

Several international airlines serving Monrovia provide the infrastructure to carry air cargo to US, Europe and other African countries.

- There are 140 airports/airstrips registered in Liberia, but Roberts International Airport (also known as Robertsfield), 45 km southeast of Monrovia, is the country’s only international airport. Spriggs Payne Airport, close to the centre of Monrovia, acts as a domestic/regional airport.
- The country currently receives airlines such as SN Brussels, British Airways, Delta Airlines, Kenya Airways, DHL, Gambia Bird, Air Maroc, ASKY Airlines. British Airways, Delta Airlines, and Gambia Bird have suspended their services to Liberia.

The following sections contain information on the logistics infrastructure of Liberia.