United Nations Development Programme-Liberia

Accelerated Community Development Programme (ACDP) [00132464]

Annual Project Progress Report – 2025



During the official dedication of the seventeen (17) water kiosks in Gbarpolu and Rivercess

Table of Contents

Executive Summary 1
Context 2
Implementation Progress 2
Output 1 2
Output 2 7
Challenges 12
Risks 12
Issues 12
Lessons Learned 13
Future Plans 13
Financial Section 14

Executive Summary

In 2025, the Accelerated Community Development Program (ACDP) advanced its mission to improve rural livelihoods and strengthen climate-resilient infrastructure across Liberia. Key interventions focused on expanding access to safe drinking water, enhancing agricultural productivity, and promoting sustainable economic opportunities for rural communities.

The ACDP completed and dedicated **17 solar-powered water kiosks**, bringing the total number of kiosks to **21** in five communities across Bong, Gbarpolu, and Rivercess Counties, providing safe drinking water to over 18,000 residents. To further expand access to safe drinking water, team initiated the construction of six (6) additional solar-powered borehole systems in underserved communities, expected to benefit **15,248 rural residents** upon completion. To ensure maintenance and sustainability, rolled out Community WASH Technician Training for 35 participants (20 males, 15 females) from 12 communities, resulting in the maintenance and repair of **46 water infrastructures**, including kiosks and hand pumps.

The ACDP constructed an agricultural processing and storage facility in Bopolu City, serving over 60 farming communities and enabling value addition for rice and cassava. Installed a solar-powered fish cold storage facility in Robertsport, Grand Cape Mount County, to reduce post-harvest losses and improve income for fishing communities.

Supported 14 farmers' cooperatives through certification, training, and equipment supply, leading to a **36% increase in rice production** (from 13,892 to 18,874 bags) benefiting 700+ rural farmers. Donated 16 motorbikes to Agricultural Extension Workers, facilitating **700+ field visits** and training **565 rural farmers** on climate-smart, low-cost farming techniques.

These results were achieved through strong collaboration and partnership with Government institutions like the Ministries of Public Works, Agriculture, State and Finance and Development Planning. Other partners include the National WASH Commission of Liberia, the National Legislature, local authorities of Gbarpolu, Bong, Rivercess, Lofa, Grand Cape Mount, Nimba, etc.

Financially, the project had a total budget of $2,536,224.44 USD and expended $1,077,697.42 USD with an overall delivery rate of 42.49%. The low delivery rate is attributable to late contribution of $1,342,495.15 USD received from the Ministry of Health for the procurement of ambulances and other vehicles.

Despite progress, rural farmers continue to face unfavourable market conditions, including limited buyers and low prices, resulting in low sales ratios (7% in 2025). Poor road conditions also delayed water infrastructure projects in some communities.

Context

The Accelerated Community Development Programme (ACDP) is a ACDP is a five-year Programme aimed at meeting the real needs of the most vulnerable rural populations. Implementation of the Programme is expected to yield immediate impact especially in reducing poverty while accelerating socio-economic development of rural communities. The programme seeks to assist in strengthening human capital and resilience to shocks and pandemics; reducing inequality between the urban and rural areas; improving access to basic social and economic infrastructures; and creating short- and long-term jobs. It also aims to address issues of dire poverty and pervasive inequalities in Liberia especially between rural and urban populations by focusing on the following core areas of intervention: a) agriculture and food security, b) infrastructure/feeder roads, c) affordable and clean energy, d) health, quality education and wellbeing and e) access to water and sanitation.

The Programme also targets to achieve the following results by 2027:

- Significantly improved living conditions for residents of targeted rural and urban communities through environmentally sustainable and equitable access to basic water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) services by 2027
- Improved social infrastructure investments to create multiplier effects on access to markets, agriculture and fishery production, and other economic activities in targeted rural communities.
- A sustainable and inclusive model for a multisectoral spatial approach to fast-track rural infrastructure development that provides equitable access to opportunities for women, girls, and youth.
- Strengthened capacity of public and private sector players to increase economic participation and rural productivity, enabling employment, job creation, and enterprise development in an inclusive manner.

Implementation Progress

Output 1

Improved access and sustainable use of basic water and sanitation services in selected communities, identified as amongst the most vulnerable.

During 2025 implementation, the ACDP fully completed and dedicated **17 water kiosks** equipped with solar-powered boreholes, bringing the total number of kiosks to 21 across five selected beneficiary communities. The 21 water kiosks are collectively providing safely managed drinking water to over 18,000 rural residents across five communities in Bong, Gbarpolu, and Rivercess Counties. The construction of these kiosks has

significantly reduced the distance residents would travel to access clean water, bringing much-needed relief to these communities.

EXPANSION OF ACCESS TO SAFELY MANAGED DRINKING WATER IN ADDITIONAL RURAL COMMUNITIES

To further expand safe and clean water access to underserved areas, the ACDP through its contractors started the construction of solar-powered borehole systems in six additional rural communities, including Duo-Gorton in Nimba, Flehla in Bong, Kpayaquelleh, Kailahun, Lukasu, and Voinjama in Lofa County. These construction works are still ongoing, nearing completion in some communities such as Duo-Gorton and Kpayaquelleh with drilling of the boreholes and construction of elevated water towers and kiosks being completed in the two (2) beneficiary communities, pending the installation of solar systems, including submersible pumps and connection of water lines to the related water infrastructures. The progress of construction in other beneficiary communities has been stalled due to deplorable road condition, among others. The expansion of access to safely managed water to these additional rural communities will see the basic water and sanitation services reaching another **15,248 rural residents**, while strengthening women's leadership in local water governance and advancing sustainable, climate-resilient communities across rural Liberia.



Figure 1: Ongoing Construction of Water Infrastructures (L-R: Kiosk, borehole, tower) nearing completion

SUSTAINABILITY OF COMMUNITY WATER INFRASTRUCTURES

From time immemorial, maintenance and sustainability of completed water infrastructures in rural communities has been an issue to grapple with. To address this situation, the ACDP successfully rolled out intensive Community WASH Technician Trainings across Bong, Gbarpolu, Lofa and Rivercess counties to ensure sustainability of the newly constructed solar-powered water systems and the existing community hand pumps. A total of 35 participants (20 males, 15 females) from 12 supported communities

were trained. These communities included Flehla, Donfah in Bong, Bopolu, Bambu Town, Compound-su, Farwhenta, Lowomah, Sappimah in Gbarpolu, Kpayaquelleh in Lofa; and Gberdiah, Tompoe Town, and Yarpah Town in Rivercess. The training focused on building technical skills for the operation, maintenance, and repair of newly constructed solar-powered water systems and community hand pumps. It also fostered community ownership and responsibility for the sustainability and sanitary management of local water facilities. Since the training, these trained Community WASH Technicians have been applying the knowledge and skills acquired from the trainings by conducting routine maintenance and repairing damaged water pipelines and faucets within the water kiosks and rehabilitating non-functional hand pumps in their respective communities. To date, the Community WASH Technicians have repaired and maintained forty-six (46) water infrastructures, including 6 water kiosks and 40 hand pumps. Their interventions have helped to improve access to safe and clean drinking water in the communities.



Solar-powered borehole water supply system.



Community hand pump repair

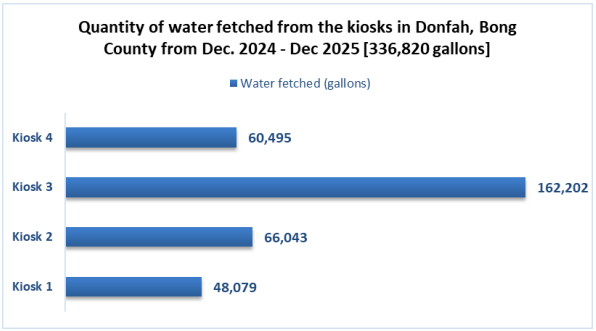
Figure 2: During the practical sessions of the technical WASH training

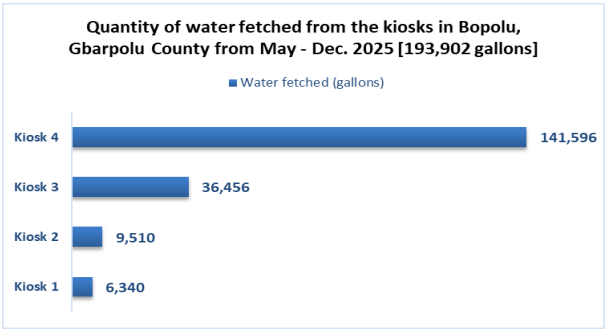
CONSUMPTION OF WATER FROM THE COMPLETED WATER KIOSKS

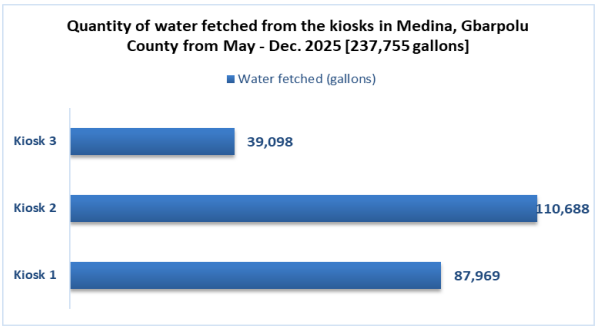


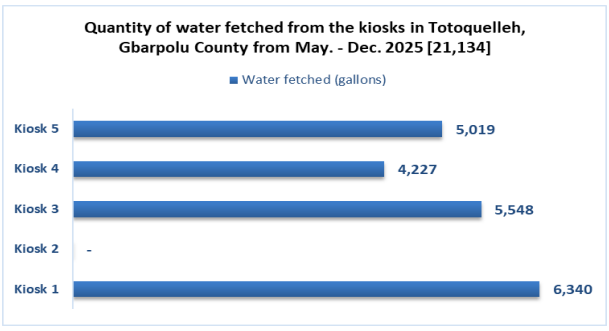
Figure 3: Operational water kiosk

As of December 2024, the completed water kiosks in Donfah, Bong County became operational and open to the community residents for use while kiosks in Bopolu, Medina, Totoquelleh, and Yarpah Town communities became operational and open for use in May 2025, serving the total population of **18,970 people** with safely managed drinking water. The proximity of the kiosks, typically within a five-minute walk for most residents, has been a significant benefit, especially for women and children who traditionally bear the burden of water collection. Feedback from community members and local health worker, Community Health Assistant (CHA), suggests a sustained low frequency of waterborne illnesses in the community since they started using the water from the kiosks. Since the kiosks became operational, a total of **27,279,198** gallons of safe drinking water has been dispensed or fetched from these kiosks. The figure below presents data on water consumption from each kiosk by beneficiary community.









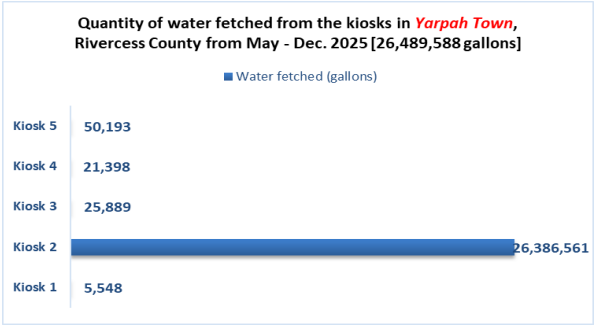


Figure 4: Water consumption in the kiosks based on the water meter reading (m3 converted to gals @ 1m3=264.17gals)

Figure 3 presents water consumption from the time kiosks became operational up to late December 2025. Yarpah Town, where some homes are connected to the water pipelines, recorded the highest consumption of water.

Beneficiary Quote: *"Before, we used to stand in a long line at the hand pump just to get water. Sometimes, we had to ration two buckets per person, and when the well dried up, we waited more than 30 minutes for it to refill. Because of this, some people even went to the stream outside of the town for water. But now, with the water kiosks in the community, everything has changed. We spend less than 10 minutes to get water from the kiosks, which have three faucets. No more long lines, no more shortage or water. The water is safe and reliable, and since we started drinking it, we have had no problems," said* ***Vafely Dukuly****, Chairman on Water Committee in Medina, Gbarpolu County.*



"Since the water kiosks were installed, cases of waterborne diseases in households have dropped a lot compared to before. My reports used to show many diarrhea cases, but now the numbers are very low," ***said John L. Flomo, a Community Health Assistant (CHA) from Donfah, Bong County.***

Output 2

Improved access to livelihood opportunities, economic infrastructure, and improvement in basic living standards in selected counties.

In 2025, in an effort to enhance access to livelihood opportunities for rural residents whose livelihoods are heavily dependent on farming, the ACDP built an agricultural processing and storage facility in Bopolu City, Gbarpolu County for the farming communities where farmers can process, store and add value to their agricultural produce. This facility represents an aggregation center for local farmers with an office space for sales processes, equipped with solar energy to power office appliances and lighten the facility. The processing section of this facility will be equipped with the state-of-the-art processing machines for basic value chains such as rice and cassava to add or enhance the quality of these produce for better market value. The processing and storage facility will serve over **sixty (60) farming communities** within Bopolu District and



Figure 5: Agricultural processing and Storage Facility in Bopolu, Gbarpolu County

In Robertsport, Grand Cape Mount County, the fishmongers and fishermen had long yearned for a facility that would one day offer them the opportunity to preserve their raw and unprocessed fish harvested from the ocean in order to prevent the post-harvest losses they have been experiencing for years during the time when they harvest more than they can dry or sell due to limited dryers and buyers. This situation had led to losses in income generation and impediment in access to improved livelihoods. To address this situation and strengthen livelihood opportunities, a prefabricated solar-powered fish cold storage facility is being installed in Robertsport City for the fishing communities where they can preserve their raw or unprocessed fish to reduce post-harvest losses. With this cold storage facility, the fishermen and fishmongers will have the opportunity to sell their fish at a fair and normal market price without being pressured to sell at any price, often disadvantageous to their income growth, due to fear for spoilage thereby affording them access to improved livelihood opportunities. These infrastructures

represent social economic relief for the rural residents as they contribute immensely to their income growth. They will minimize the dominance of a buyer's market where customers decide prices of their choice. The cold storge facility, when completed, will be the only cold storage serving the fishing communities in Robertsport and the first in several years.



Figure 6: Ongoing Solar-Powered Fish Cold Storage Facility Installation in Robertsport, Grand Cape Mount County

PRODUCTION OUTPUTS OF ACDP-SUPPORTED FARMERS' COOPERATIVES (HARVEST-CROP YIELD)

In 2025, the ACDP, through the Cooperative Development Agency (CDA), certificated the 14 supported farmers' cooperatives following series of practical technical trainings and supplies of modern agricultural equipment. The certification marked the conclusion of the formalization of those selected farmers' groups into full-fledged farmers' cooperatives. As a result of the supports, these cooperatives have seen a significant increase in rice and cassava production and have transformed the future outlook for revenue growth for more than 700 rural farmers who are members and direct beneficiaries of these supports. Together, the farmers' cooperatives have increased production from **13, 892** bags of rice last year to **18,874** bags of rice in 2025, representing **36% change or increase** in agricultural production.

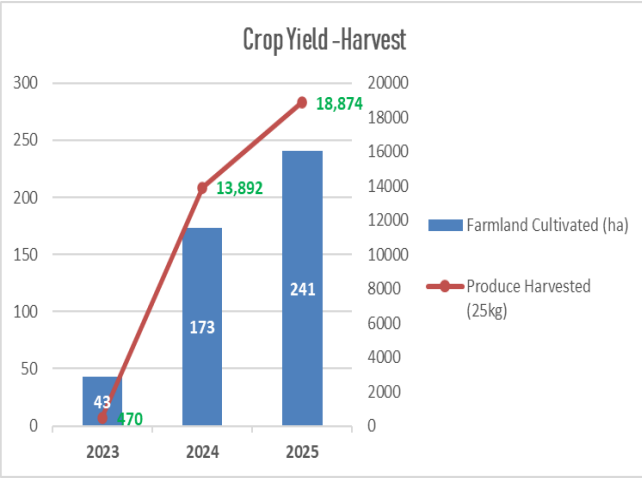




Figure 7: Rice Production Across the 14 ACDP-Supported Farmers' Cooperatives from 2023 to 2025

Beneficiary Quote: *"Even though we still need more support, but I can say the ACDP has really helped us farmers. They gave us a tractor, and that has changed things for us. With the tractor, we prepare our farmland better, and now our harvest has gone up from 12 bags per acre to 30 bags per acre. In recent times, no other partner has done for us what ACDP and UNDP have done. This support has made a big difference in our rice production," said* ***Francis Tucker****, a 55-year-old farmer from Gbedin, Nimba County.*

Despite increase in production volumes for rice over the last two years, farmers continue to face unfavourable market conditions such as very limited buyers and low market prices for the produce, leading to very low sales and stunted growth in household revenue. These market conditions, especially "limited buyers" compel rural farmers to give their produce out at any price, often low, at the advantage of the buyers. In this situation, the rural farmers are willing to drop the price considerably, potentially even below the typical market value to make the sale happen to make ends meet. The ratios of produce sold to produce harvested for 2024 and 2025 are **9%** and **7%**, respectively. The chart below *(figure 8*) visualizes the large gap –(low ratio) that exists between harvested and sold produce.

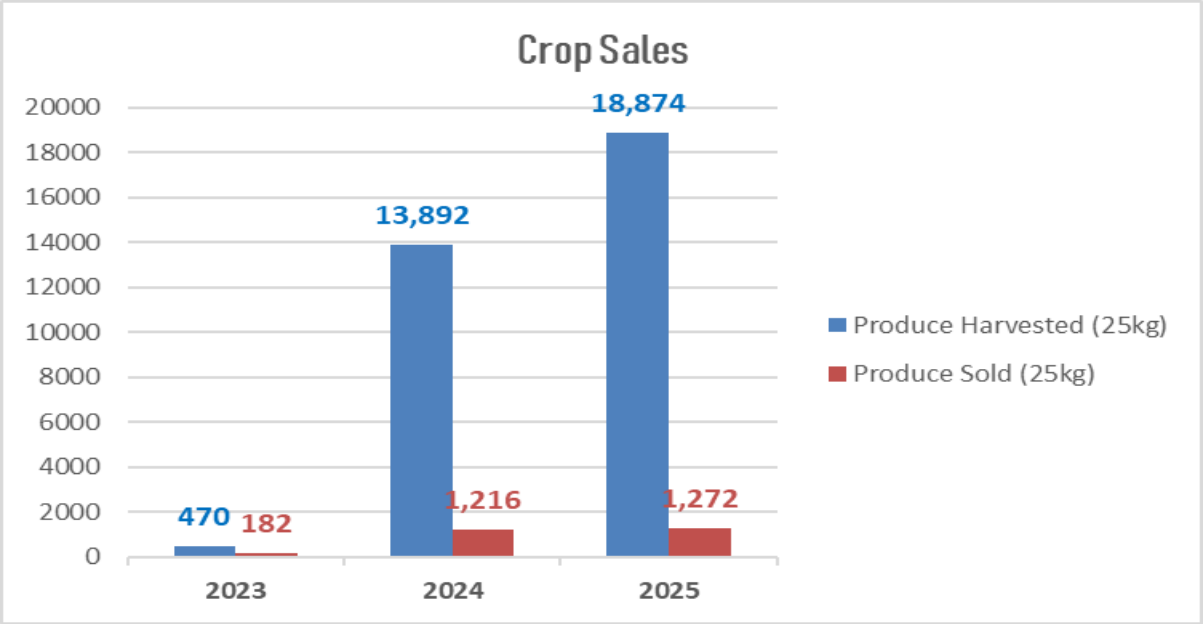


Figure 8: Sales of Rice Produce Per 25kg bag from 2023 to 2025

HOUSEHOLD REVENUE GROWTH FROM INCREASED PRODUCTION OF CROPS

In spite of the unfavourable market conditions, some farming households reported gradual growth in revenue over time as a result of increase in agricultural production. This revenue growth, though not transformational due to unfavourable market conditions, has enabled some rural farmers to afford undertaking some life-changing personal household projects such as buying building materials (zinc, nails) to repair or build their own home, investing in small businesses for alternative income streams to ensure sustainable self-employment and economic empowerment, and paying children school fees with ease. Figure 9 and table 1 below present the gradual revenue growth trends. In the below graph and table, it is observed that HH4 recorded the highest percent change –(increase) in income growth with **58%**, followed by HH3 with **55%**.

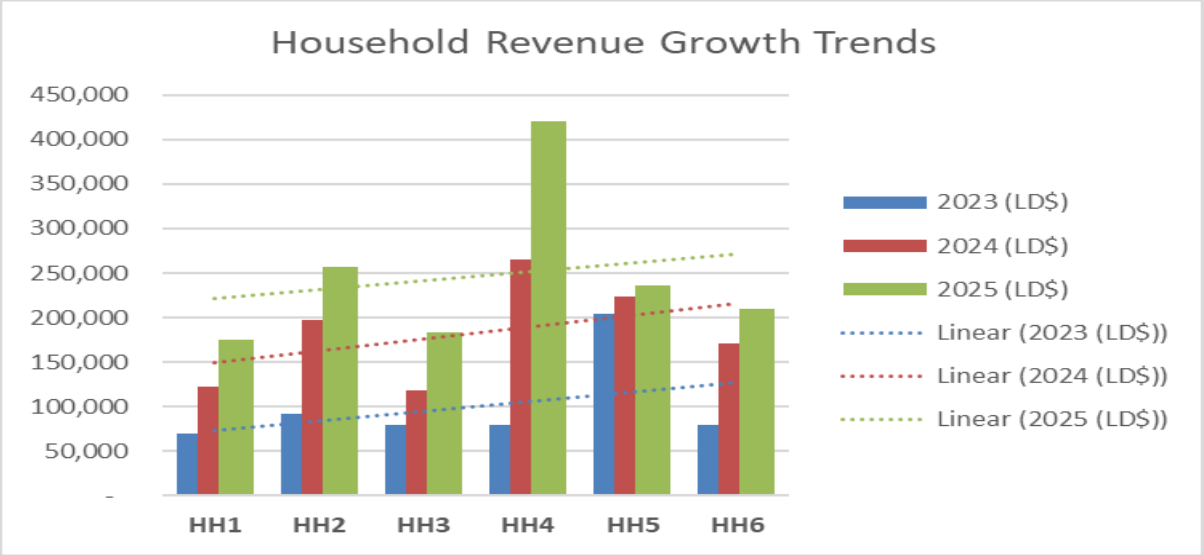


Figure 9: Farming Household Revenue Growth Trend

Farming Household Revenue Growth from Increased Production (LD$)					
Household	2023	2024	2025	%Change	Trend Arrow
HH1	$ 70,000.00	$ 122,500.00	$ 175,000.00	43%	▲
HH2	$ 91,875.00	$ 196,875.00	$ 257,250.00	31%	▲
HH3	$ 78,750.00	$ 118,125.00	$ 182,790.00	55%	▲
HH4	$ 78,750.00	$ 265,500.00	$ 420,000.00	58%	▲
HH5	$ 204,750.00	$ 223,125.00	$ 236,250.00	6%	▲
HH6	$ 78,750.00	$ 170,625.00	$ 210,000.00	23%	▲

Table 1: Household Revenue Growth Table

OUTCOMES OF MOTORBIKE DONATION TO AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION WORKERS

In 2024, the ACDP donated motorbikes to sixteen (16) Agricultural Extension Workers through the Ministry of Agriculture to facilitate their movements to rural farming communities to enhance the capacity of smallholder farmers and ensure the adoption of best farming practices to improve and increase productivity. To date, the extension workers have recorded over seven hundred (700+) supportive supervision visits to local farming communities and trained five hundred sixty-five (565) local farmers on low-cost farming techniques such as composting and manure use, crop rotation, mulching, natural pest control, water conservation, and climate change adaptation. These natural techniques have reduced expenses and reliance on synthetic fertilizers and pesticides which are often expensive for smallholder farmers. These trainings are making farming more sustainable, resilient and profitable for the rural farmers.



Figure 10: Extension Workers with the local farmers on the farm during supportive supervision and monitoring visit.

GENDER MAINSTREAMING

As part of ACDP's commitment to women's economic empowerment, the ACDP initiated the installation of a Prefab Fish Cold Storage Facility to prevent post-harvest losses in Robertsport, Cape Mount County which is fast nearing completion and expected to be commissioned early next year 2026. This facility is expected to benefit **over 1,000 fishmongers** who are predominantly women, thereby improving access to sustainable livelihood opportunities. Additionally, women represented 43% of participants (15 out of 35) in the Community WASH Technician Trainings conducted across Bong, Gbarpolu, Lofa, and Rivercess Counties. Through this training, women gained essential technical skills in the operation, maintenance, and repair of water facilities, enabling them to play an active role in improving access to safe drinking water and supporting local development.

As a result of ACDP's direct social cash transfers to **884 rural women farmers** last year, many beneficiaries started small businesses to earn alternative income, while others expanded existing businesses and increased profits. Some invested in agricultural inputs to boost yields and improve food security, while others purchased building materials to repair damaged roofs or even build their own homes, ensuring dignity and privacy. Below are a few beneficiary quotes.



Beneficiary Quote: *"Before I got this money, I was renting one room where I slept with my three children. I always wanted my own place, but I couldn't afford materials like zinc and nails. When I received the money, I bought two bundles of zinc to roof my house so my children and I can have a better place to sleep. I'm so happy for this," said* ***Helena Koleh****, a 40-year-old widow from Donfah Community, Bong.*



Beneficiary Quote: *"Before, my big sister used to take fish from suppliers and give me to sell and pay later. When she left for Monrovia, I stopped selling because I had no money to buy fish myself. When I got the cash transfer, I bought fish and started selling on my own. This business is helping me pay school fees for my five children and take care of other household needs,"* ***said Jenneh Faikai, a 43-year-old Single mother.***

Challenges

Funding constraints, especially the delay by MFDP to transfer allotment of 692,341 USD is a very huge challenge for the project.

Risks

The lack of funds could stall and potentially prevent the continuation of ACDP implementation.

Issues

The commencement of borehole drilling in Kailahun and Lukasu, Lofa County, is currently on hold due to poor road conditions caused by the extended rainy season. The delay affected the project timeline and the originally stipulated completion dates in the contract. However, the project team has adjusted the contract to extend the completion deadline, ensuring alignment with the realities on the ground. As the rainy season subsides, road conditions are expected to improve, allowing for the safe transport of heavy equipment, including the rig truck for borehole drilling.

Lessons Learned

- Involving the county authorities and beneficiary communities every step of the way in the implementation of the ACDP activities has earned great appreciations and strengthened local ownership and enhance collaboration and partnership.

- Involving the sector leads in the technical evaluation of the sector-related procurement processes improves the value, credibility and quality of the bid evaluation outcomes.

- Co-creating concept notes and other project related documents with government partners enhances cooperation and strengthens national ownership of ACDP interventions.

Future Plans

The ACDP will implement the following activities in the subsequent reporting period:

- Completion of additional 6 solar-powered boreholes, water towers, and kiosks
- Equipping the storage and processing facility (Agri hub) for cooperatives in Bopolu.
- Completing the Installation of Solar-powered Prefab Cold Storage Container in Robertsport City
- Procurement of ambulances for the MOH
- Complete the rehabilitation of maternity and surgical wards of the Tellewoyan hospital and generation of medical equipment specifications and procurement.

Financial Section

Table 1: Programme Delivery

AWP Output	Budget	Expenditure	% Variance
Output 1	357,267.85	357,267.85	-
Output 2	1,630,619.67	172,072.56	89.44
Output 3			
Output 4	548,357.01	548,357.01	-
Total	2,536,224.44	1,077,697.42	57.5

Table 2: 2025 Financial Performance (Cumulative)

Budget	Expenditure	Delivery Rate
2,536,224.44	1,077,697.42	42.49%

List of Acronyms

Acronyms	Definition
ACDP	Accelerated Community Development Programme
Agri hub	Agriculture hub
CDA	Cooperation Development Agency
CHA	Community Health Assistant
MIA	Ministry of Internal Affairs
MOA	Ministry of Agriculture
MOH	Ministry of Health
MPW	Ministry of Public Works
NWASHC	National Water, Sanitation and Hygiene Commission
WASH	Water, Sanitation and Hygiene
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme

Annex

Annex I: Progress Monitoring Matrix

EXPECTED OUTPUTS & INDICATORS	PLANNED ACTIVITIES	PLANNED BUDGET (In USD)	EXPENDITURE (In USD)	PROGRESS ON ACTIVITIES (Cumulative since beginning of the year)	PROGRESS TOWARDS ACHIEVING OUTPUT
Output 1: Improved access and sustainable use of basic, water and sanitation services in selected communities) identified as amongst the most vulnerable	**ACDP 1.1:** Support to water and sanitation (construction of additional 3 solar-powered boreholes with water kiosks and booster pumps in three new targeted communities in Lofa Kpayaquelleh), Nimba (Duo-Gorton) and Bong (Flehla). This will include the provision of solar lights to provide security for the water Kiosks and the boreholes.	**285,000**	**347,949.85**	The construction of the six (6) targeted solar-power water supply systems in additional communities is progressing well, with two systems nearing completion in Duo-Gorton and Kpayaquelleh.	With 21 solar-powered water kiosks now completed and operational, and 40 previously non-functional hand pumps repaired, serving approximately 48% of the target population (46,604), alongside ongoing efforts to expand water access to additional communities, the ACDP is making remarkable strides toward ensuring sustainable access to basic water and sanitation services in its target areas.
	ACDP 1.2: Support the repair of prioritized non-functional water hand pumps in targeted communities in Bong, Gbarpolu, Lofa and training least 22 technicians for management of the handpumps and mechanized boreholes) including procurement of spare parts for the non-functional hand pumps	**20,000**	**15,513**	Following the procurement of spare parts and the training of WASH technicians, 40 previously non-functional hand pumps have been successfully rehabilitated across 12 beneficiary communities. All are now fully operational, providing reliable water access to the communities.	

	ACDP 1.3: Sensitization campaigns, sustainability and management of assets and services across all communities			No intervention implemented to	
Output 2: Improved access to livelihood opportunities, economic infrastructure, and improvement in basic living standards in selected counties	**ACDP2.19:** Construct the first one (1) Storage and food Processing facilities in Gbarpolu County.	90,284.00	**84,190.86**	Construction of a modern agri-food storage and processing facility in Bopolu City, Gbarpolu was completed. Serving over 60 farming communities, the facility enables value addition for rice and cassava, alleviates storage challenges, and improves market access by linking producers with buyers.	The ACDP has implemented impactful interventions to enhance access to livelihood opportunities and economic infrastructure in several beneficiary communities. These efforts include empowering rural farmers to boost productivity through the provision of agricultural inputs and equipment, such as tractors, power tillers, and post-harvest processing machines, benefiting over 700 farmers organized in cooperatives. Additionally, the project has constructed agricultural storage and processing facilities to support value addition and market linkages, and installed solar-powered fish cold storage facility for fishermen and fishmongers to reduce post-harvest losses and protect incomes.
	ACDP 2.4 Support the rehabilitation or reconstruction of selected feeder roads/bike tracks to create access to farmlands and markets and construction of mini bridges in targeted communities in Bong, Gbarpolu, Lofa, Nimba and Rivercess. This will also include mechanized and labor-based training			No intervention done against this activity.	

	workshops for village road access maintenance.				
	ACDP2.5: Support sustainable commercial production and provide matching grants to farmers' cooperatives and PWDs for land development and preparation	120,00. 00		No intervention done to achieve this during the implementation year.	
	ACDP 2.16: Procure agricultural tools and equipment for farmers cooperatives			No intervention done to achieve this during the implementation year.	
	ACDP 2.21: Procure and install solar compliant food processing, storage and preservation equipment (cold storage, blast coolers) in selected communities. Including the procurement of cold storage platform materials	90,000.00	66,597.06	A prefabricated solar-powered fish cold storage facility is being installed in Robertsport City for the fishing communities where they can preserve their raw or unprocessed fish to reduce post-harvest losses. The facility is in its final stage of completion.	