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PREPARING THE NEXT GENERATION OF LIBERIA'S CIVIL SERVICE LEADERS

January 2020 – September 2022 Implementers | President's Young Professionals Program (PYPP)

USAID is supporting the **President's Young Professionals Program of Liberia** to help prepare the next generation of Liberia's civil service leaders by supporting a new cohort (Class IX) of 20 young and talented Liberian college graduates who will be placed in government ministries and agencies and private sector institutions and organizations through a 2-year fellowship on mentoring and training. The organization youth leadership capacity building model balances the government's immediate need for competent junior staff with the longer-term goals of increasing the capacity of the civil service and preparing a new generation of talented youth for leadership roles in government.

PYPP, a two-year merit-based fellowship program, recruits, places, trains and supports qualified young Liberians college graduates to assume key positions in Liberia's Civil Service. The organization is also piloting its private sector engagement by placing some of its Class IX Fellows in private sector institutions and organizations. The goal is to strengthen the capacity of Liberia's Civil Service, while driving Liberia's economic growth and development through a new generation of professionals, capable of working to enhance private sector investment, increase delivery of services, and sustain economic gains and good governance.

The USAID grant also includes opportunities to strengthen PYPP institutional capacity to effectively deliver and scale up its programs by developing a new 5-year strategic plan and migrating the organization's financial management system to an automated system (QuickBooks).

Current Activities

- Recruited and placed PYPs at Government of Liberia ministries and agencies and private sector institutions and organizations.
- Providing capacity building training and ongoing mentorship for PYPs.
- Ongoing institutional capacity building activities.

Accomplishments to Date

- 24 Class IX PYPs recruited and selected to form part of Class IX.
- Near-gender parity of selected fellows – 11 females and 13 males.
- All 24 PYPs attended a 2-week job-readiness training and PYPP orientation workshop.
- 19 Fellows placed in 9 government ministries and agencies and 5 placed in private sector institutions: Conex Group J.V. Ltd., Liberia Cement Corporation and NAYMOTE Partners for Development and Democracy.
- 3 Fellows awarded scholarships to pursue graduate studies in: Agricultural Production Chain Management, Pharmaceutical Science and Biotechnology of Human Assisted Reproduction and Embryology. 2 have left for their studies in Japan and the Netherlands.

Planned Outcomes

- Strengthen job-performance capacity of young Liberian college graduates which will lead to new and better employment opportunities in the public and private sectors.
- Recruitment and selection of 20 additional young professionals to respond to the growing demand for qualified and highly skilled fellows.
- Secure through the Civil Service Agency, the Government of Liberia \$50K contribution to PYPP 2020 budget as allotted in its 2020/21 budget.
- PYPP institutional capacity strengthened to effectively implement and scale up its programs.