



**FUN**



**Farmers Union Network of Liberia  
Presentation at the International  
Seminar in Brussels Nov.28-  
29,2012**

**“Farmers’ Organization  
Involvement in Agricultural  
Programs”**

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***“No Farmer No Food”***

# Overview of FUN Liberia and GAFSP

Farmers Union Network of Liberia (FUN) is an Umbrella organization of Farmers, corps, individual establish since 2008 in Liberia. FUN is a member of ROPPA, Program Management Unit of Ministry of Agriculture and two other national Steering committees.

FUN was introduce to the Global Agriculture Food Security Program (GAFSP) through a small grant from IFAD to AgriCord for which Cissokho was send to Liberia in May 2012 . Cissokho was able to tell GOL ,Donors and other Stakeholder the Role of FUN/FOs as it relates to GAFSP.



# ACHIEVEMENTS

- FUN was introduced to GAFSP with its role being explained by Cissokho thus increasing the participation of FUN in national functions
- FUN was able to gather farmers from all across the country for the first time since after the war to meet with GoL and Donors on their inclusion thus leading to a proposal to conduct a Nationwide Farmers Consultation
- FUN now has more than 12 partners since Cissokho left Liberia in May 2012.
- FUN is now serving on three national Steering Committees, and has been able to seek GOL to make an allotment in the National Budget for the first time since after the war.
- FUN now runs a National Radio program “Farmers Voices”, negotiating with IFAD for half a Million, running a Nationwide Farmers Consultation, support has increased rapidly over the couple of months and GOL now fully acknowledges FUN and FO role as key to moving the agriculture sector in Liberia.
- FUN since its establishment now has a functioning staff who have been paid by CSA for 3 months.
- FUN is now involved in the supervision mission of IFAD and other projects and is participating in the design of a new project and is expected to be served as an intermediate for IFAD STCRP in Lofa.
- Most interestingly most donors, GOL and others now see the important role of FO



# FUN/FO LIMITS in LIBERIA

- ❖ Lack of Adequate recognition and support by GOL and Donors so see FO as the bridge between GOL and Donors and Farmers.
- ❖ FO are incapacitated to carryout their own activities
- ❖ FO's are not structure properly at grassroots levels in the Districts and lack information on ongoing agriculture activities/Projects.



# CHALLENGES & CONSTRAINTS FACING FO In Liberia

- Limited support to run activities initiated by FO
- Lack funding and human resource to carry out program to its members
- Limited institutional support, most activities are not decentralized due to bad roads, and local structure in the districts level
- Very limited resources such as office equipment's, vehicle to get in the field unable to follow up GOL and Donors and lack some political will
- GOL see the need to release power to FO but fear that they might lose power if they hand over activities /project to FO.
- Information gap and marginalization of FO is still ongoing on the basics that FO are not capable for managing funding
- Sustainability of FO initiatives is a big issue and many use FO name to get funding but don't make FO partners to most of the projects
- Relationship between FO's and MoA/GoL authorities remains highly asymmetrical
- Access to land and finance is key with land grabbing ongoing

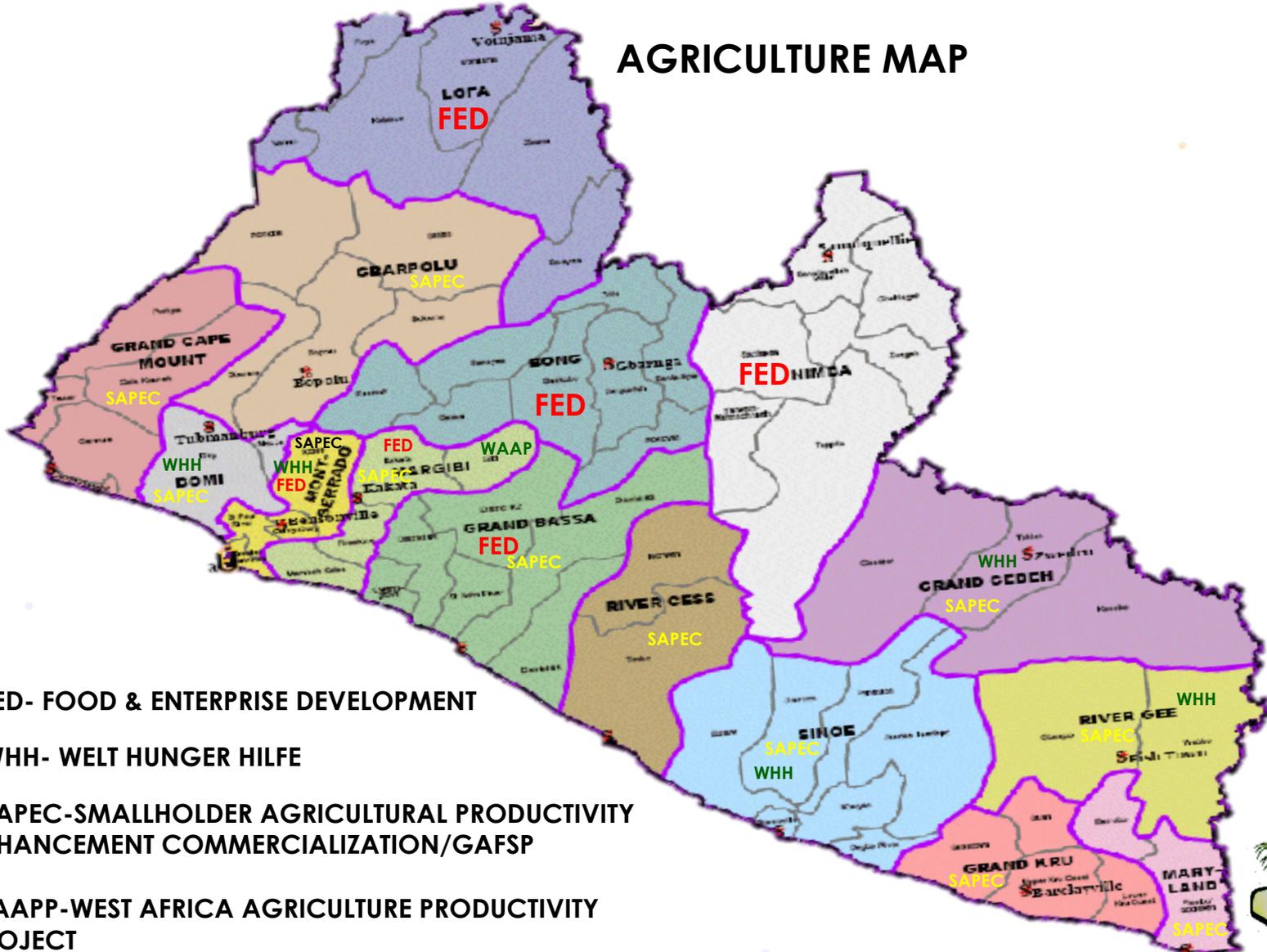


# Initiatives undertaken by FO

- Radio program runs by FO for the purpose of FO speaking independently and having access to information
- Nationwide Farmers Consultation organize and lead by FO.
- Developing of a Market Information System (MIS) to be manage by FO
- Lobbying with parliament to include FO in national budget which was well for the first time since after the war this year FO was included in national budget with very little amount but welcome it.
- Advocacy campaign on FO roles and importance to national development.
- FO is now participating in National budget formulation and mid review of budget as it relate to Agriculture along with CSO.



# AGRICULTURE MAP



- FED- FOOD & ENTERPRISE DEVELOPMENT
- WHH- WELT HUNGER HILFE
- SAPEC-SMALLHOLDER AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTIVITY ENHANCEMENT COMMERCIALIZATION/GAFSP
- WAAPP-WEST AFRICA AGRICULTURE PRODUCTIVITY PROJECT



*"No Farmer No Food"*

# Liberian FO call on GOL & Donors to get them on board



**TOGETHER WE ARE BETTER**

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**MEETING PARTNERS TO  
PRIORITIZED FUN WORK TO  
END HUNGER**

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**FUN**



**MEETING PARTNERS TO  
PARTNER WITH FUN TO END  
HUNGER**

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THANK YOU FOR ATTENTION

TOGETHER WE ARE BETTER SO PLEASE  
SUPPORT AND INCLUDE FO IN ALL  
PUBLIC AGRICULTURE PROGRAMS .



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