

**TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR INDIVIDUAL CONSULTANT TO
DEVELOP THE NATIONAL STRATEGY FOR THE DEVELOPMENT
OF STATISTICS (NSDS)**

TERMS OF REFERENCE	
Hiring Office:	UNFPA Liberia Country Office
Title:	Consultancy for the Development of the National Strategy for the Development of Statistics (NSDS) for Liberia
Background and Study Justification:	<p>Liberia's statistical capacity has been severely impacted by years of civil war. The country lacks critical baseline data and the infrastructure for effective data collection and analysis. The government has just drawn up a new development plan for the period 2025-2029. This strategic initiative involves several challenges, including providing the information required for its implementation, monitoring and evaluation of national and international development strategies and programmes. To meet this challenge and ensure that the statistical base provides the essential support to the planning process and the implementation of the new development agenda, the country needs to adopt a new national strategy for the development of statistics (NSDS) in line with the new national development plan. A robust National Strategy for the Development of Statistics (NSDS) is crucial for rebuilding this capacity, coordinating statistical activities, and ensuring the availability of reliable and accurate data for informed decision-making.</p> <p>The National Strategy for the Development of Statistics (NSDS) is a framework aimed at rebuilding Liberia's statistical capacity and strengthening coordination across agencies responsible for collecting data. It specifically seeks to improve the capacity of the central statistics organization, LISGIS, and integrate all statistical activities within a national system, with the overarching objective of creating a well-coordinated, harmonized, and efficient national statistics system. The NSDS incorporates five long-term strategic objectives: making statistics relevant to national and local development; developing efficient capacity building; developing a coordinated, harmonized, and effective system; ensuring adoption and consistent use of relevant statistical methods and standards; and developing and managing an efficient information-sharing system.</p>
Purpose of consultancy:	<p>The consultancy generally focuses on the development of a comprehensive and sustainable National Strategy for the Development of Statistics (NSDS) in Liberia and strengthening the capacity of the Liberia Institute of Statistics and Geo-Information Services (LISGIS). The objectives of this new NSDS is as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enhance coordination and harmonization of statistical activities across government ministries and agencies. • Improve the quality, timeliness, and accessibility of national statistics. • Take into account the need for statistical information to monitor and evaluate the ARREST Agenda for Inclusive Development • Equip the country with new tools to enable it to honor its national and international commitments in terms of statistical data production and dissemination (on the implementation of the SDGs, the AU's Agenda 2063), • Strengthen the national statistical system (NSS) in a comprehensive way

<p>Scope of work: (Description of services, activities, or outputs)</p>	<p>All governments need good statistics, but in developing countries, the need is even more important. Because resources are very limited, they must be used effectively and efficiently; good statistics are necessary to do this. There is an increasing consensus internationally that development in many countries, especially the poorest, has faltered in the past because development efforts did not focus on results.</p> <p>Many developing countries have weak statistical systems and mechanisms for measuring results. Good, reliable statistics are essential for measuring progress in reaching development goals and provide essential information about the effectiveness of policies and programmes. They help governments improve their policies and to be transparent and accountable about the delivery of development results.</p> <p>The NSDS is a framework, a process, and a product built through the collective and coordinated work of the Liberia Institute for Statistics and Geo-Information Services (LISGIS). NSDS is a government-owned strategy and is used for the benefit of the country. A framework from which the strategic planning is outlined for the statistical development.</p> <p>The work to be carried out by the consultant will focus on the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Take stock of the existing strategy and carry out a rapid analysis of the national statistical system • Develop a vision, goal, objectives, interventions and strategies, implementation arrangement, and monitoring framework consistent with the new development agenda, which is the ARREST Agenda for inclusive development • Draw up an operational action plan to meet the statistical information needs of the ARREST Agenda, the SDGs, and other international agendas • Develop a financing strategy inclusive of the NSDS • Formulate relevant recommendations that may be useful for the implementation of the new NSDS. <p>Key Principles for the NSDS</p> <p>The National Strategy for the Development of Statistics (NSDS) will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Be nationally led and owned, with high-level political support and champions; • Be developed in an inclusive and consultative way • Assess all statistical sectors and user needs and provide a vision and strategic plan for national statistics; • Set out an integrated statistical development programme to build capacity to deliver results, which is prioritized and timetabled, incorporating plans for implementation, monitoring, and evaluation but is also flexible enough to cope with change • Address institutional and organizational constraints and processes, including resources, for the sustainable development of statistical systems and outputs • Build quality “fit for purpose”, drawing on best international practices and standards • Build on what exists and is being developed and continue to satisfy immediate needs for statistics during the NSDS process
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Respond to user needs but be realistic about resources. Serve as a coherent framework for international support for statistical development.
Key Deliverables	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A work plan and an inception report A draft NSDS for review and validated A final NSDS, including executive summary and PowerPoint presentation
Duration and working schedule:	The duration of the consultancy is for sixty working days, beginning the first week of May 2025.
Place where services are to be delivered:	The NSDS will be developed within Monrovia, Montserrado County, the main station of the consultant. The consultant will work in the UNFPA and LISGIS premises.
Delivery dates and how work will be delivered (e.g. electronic, hard copy, etc.):	The consultant is expected to initiate and complete the NSDS within 60 working days.
Monitoring and progress control, including reporting requirements, periodicity format, and deadline:	<p>The overall consultancy will be managed by the Program Specialist, Data and Evidence, and will provide direct day-to-day oversight of the strategy development process. In close collaboration with the program team, the consultant will receive the required support to smoothly implement the strategy development.</p> <p>Referencing the above-mentioned timelines, all deliverables will be initially reviewed by the Program Specialist, Data and Evidence, before submission to the Deputy Representative for final inputs. Once reviewed by the Deputy Representative, the deliverable will then be shared with LISGIS.</p>
Supervisory arrangements:	Program Specialist, Data and Evidence
Expected travel:	The consultant is expected to travel outside Montserrado to conduct and facilitate review and validation meetings and will be responsible for his accommodation, while UNFPA will provide breakfast and lunch during stakeholders' meetings.
Required expertise, qualifications, and competencies, including language requirements:	<p>The Consultant will meet the following criteria:</p> <p>Education</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The consultant must have at least a university degree (Master Degree) in statistics, demography, development economics, or any other degree deemed equivalent; <p>Experience</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The consultant must have at least ten (10) years' experience in managing or participating in missions in the field of statistics. Extensive experience in developing national statistical strategies, policies, and plans Proven professional experience in formulating policies and strategies, particularly in the field of statistics. Proven ability to consult with the various donors involved in the national statistical system as well as with the national side An excellent understanding of statistical issues in Liberia Experience of similar assignments in Africa Excellent writing and organizational skills in workshop facilitation Excellent analytical skills and a high capacity to synthesize information.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A thorough knowledge of the United Nations system in general and of UNFPA in particular would be an asset. • Fluency in English and familiarity with the West African Region
Inputs/services to be provided by UNFPA or implementing partner (e.g, support services, office space, equipment), if applicable:	UNFPA will provide an office space with access to the internet and transportation to ensure a successful undertaking of this consultancy. Additionally, UNFPA will fund the review and validation meetings.
Other relevant information or special conditions, if any:	<p>All interested applicants should submit the following.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Letter of expression of interest • CV with evidence of qualifications and experience • Samples of reports from previous similar assignments undertaken (optional) • Detailed technical and financial proposal (to be negotiated)
Hiring Manager	UNFPA Program Specialist, Data and Evidence
Approved by:	Deputy Representative & Officer In Charge
The deadline for submission of the application shall be April 29th, 2025.	