



# MOVING LIBERIA FORWARD IMPROVING SERVICE DELIVERY AND PUBLIC INVESTMENT



The European Union (EU) is a longstanding partner and friend of Liberia. The EU supports Liberia since 1973 through many different channels. Budget support is a significant aid instrument that has brought important development results to Liberia. It is an un-earmarked direct financial support to the Liberian Treasury provided by several development partners.

The EU Budget Support addresses gaps in the national budget of Liberia, providing critically needed funds to finance key projects and service delivery in the entire country.

The EU is committed to supporting Liberia's priorities using its own systems and policies and thereby building up government capacity to deliver services to Liberian citizens.

## HOW DOES BUDGET SUPPORT WORK?

Budget support means that the EU gives money to the national budget of the Government of Liberia. Before that the EU and the Government of Liberia agree on certain positive steps. These steps are called the general and specific conditions. If the EU considers that these conditions have been met, it sends the money to the bank account of the government.

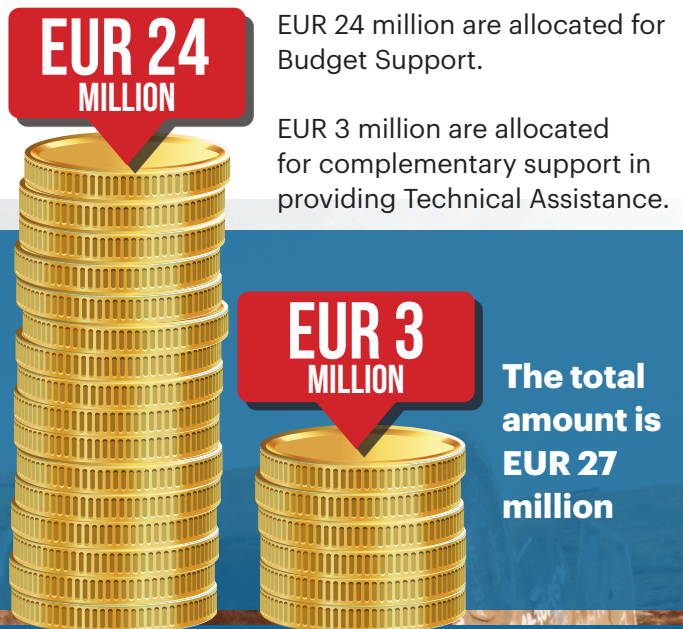
## WHAT ARE THE CONDITIONS FOR BUDGET SUPPORT?

The general conditions for EU budget support are always the same in every country. The partner government needs to:

- Create and carry out a national development plan
- Take measures to improve the economy
- Reform the management of public finances
- Inform citizens about the budget.

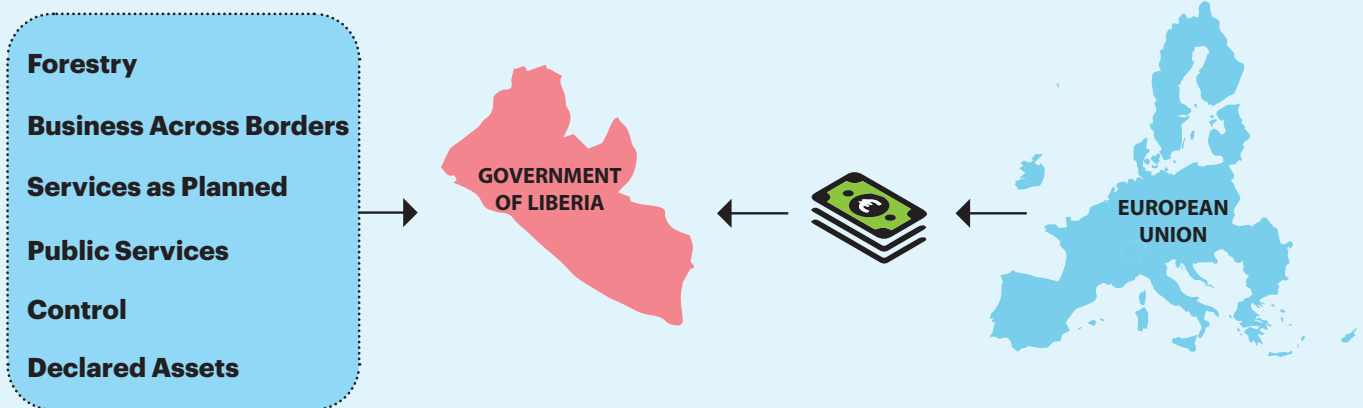
## BUDGET SUPPORT PROGRESS IN LIBERIA

The European Union is presently supporting the Government of Liberia with a budget support program of EUR 27 million to be implemented in three years, from 2018 to 2020. The overall objective is to assist the Government of Liberia in eradicating poverty and promoting sustainable and inclusive growth.



## WHAT ARE THE SPECIFIC CONDITIONS FOR LIBERIA?

Under the EU budget support, the Government of Liberia worked on specific conditions in the below-mentioned areas between 2018 to 2020 and achieved the following results:



**Raise money locally from forestry:** The Liberia Revenue Authority collected more than 74% of outstanding forestry area fees. This means that more than USD 11 million of old forestry taxes were added to the national budget.

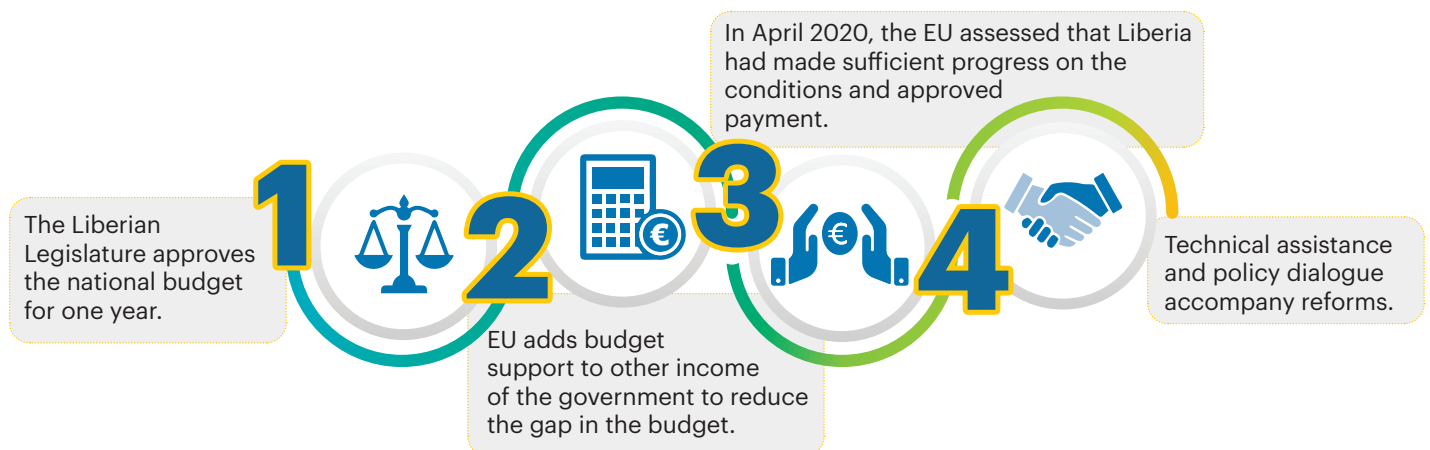
**Make doing business across the borders easier:** major efforts undertaken to improve World Bank Doing Business sub-indicator on border compliance times for import.

**Use the national budget to deliver quality services as planned:** 97% of all spending entities informed about their objectives for the fiscal year 2018/2019 and 99% for the fiscal year 2019/2020. This means that Liberians can read about how the government spent and intends to spend public money and hold ministries and agencies accountable.

**Deliver public services to citizens:** like birth certificates, marriage certificates, deed registration, vehicle registration; major efforts undertaken towards a standardized collection of data.

**Control and prevent corruption when buying goods and contracting services:** major efforts undertaken to publish procurement plans on the internet to inform interested companies.

**Check that public officials have correctly declared their assets (amount of money they have, properties they own):** The Liberia Anti-Corruption Commission (LACC) published a report on the verification of asset declarations on its website. This means that Liberians can read about what the LACC has found, and the authorities can further investigate in case of wealth obtained irregularly.



## DISBURSEMENT FROM 2018 TO 2020

Since 2018, the EU has transferred more than EUR 18 million or roughly USD 20 million through budget support to the Government of Liberia. Once the funds are in the bank account of the Liberian government, the government is free to use the money as it deems fit in line with the national budget to improve its economy and reduce the hardships of Liberian citizens.

### DELEGATION OF THE EUROPEAN UNION TO LIBERIA

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**EUinLiberia**