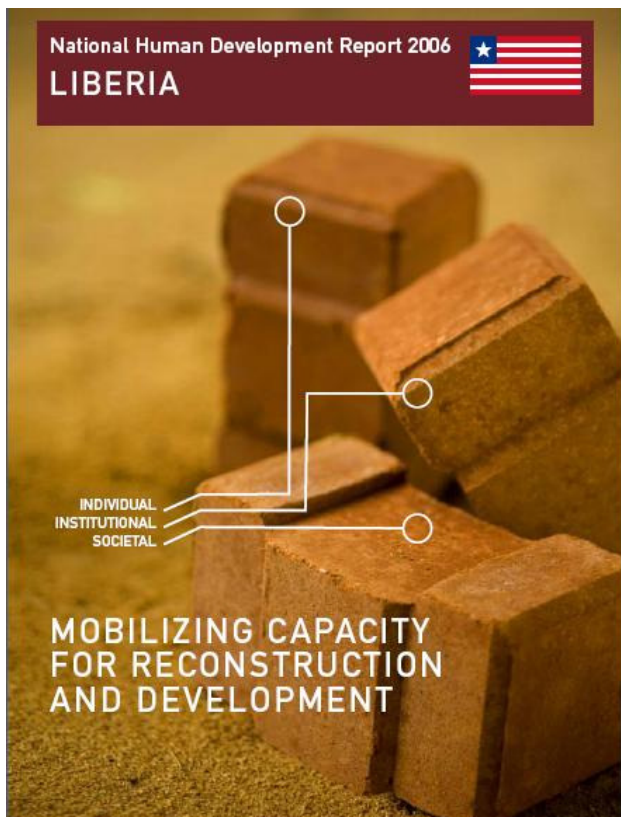


2006 Human Development Report for Liberia

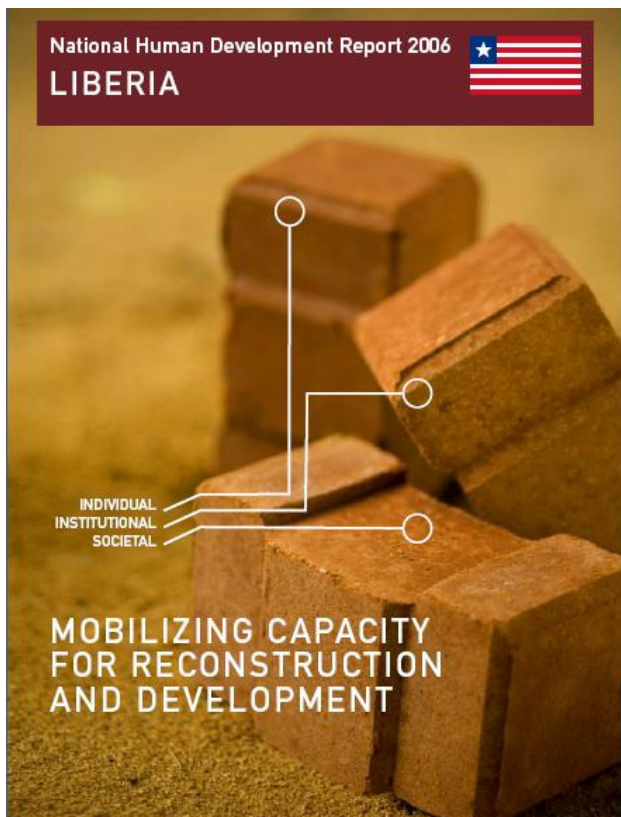


Overview of Process and Review of Content

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NHDR – Liberia 2006

Process



- First initiated in 2002 under MPEA and Technical Committee (TC)- concept paper, selection of theme & initial draft
- Break-out of war in 2003 inhibited progress
- Exercise re-started in late 04/early 05 with support from an enlarged multi-sectoral TC
- Updating of data & synthesis of material with help of a technical consultant.
- Peer review from HDR global network, local selected readers;
- Validation meeting
- final revision, editing, publication, launch today!

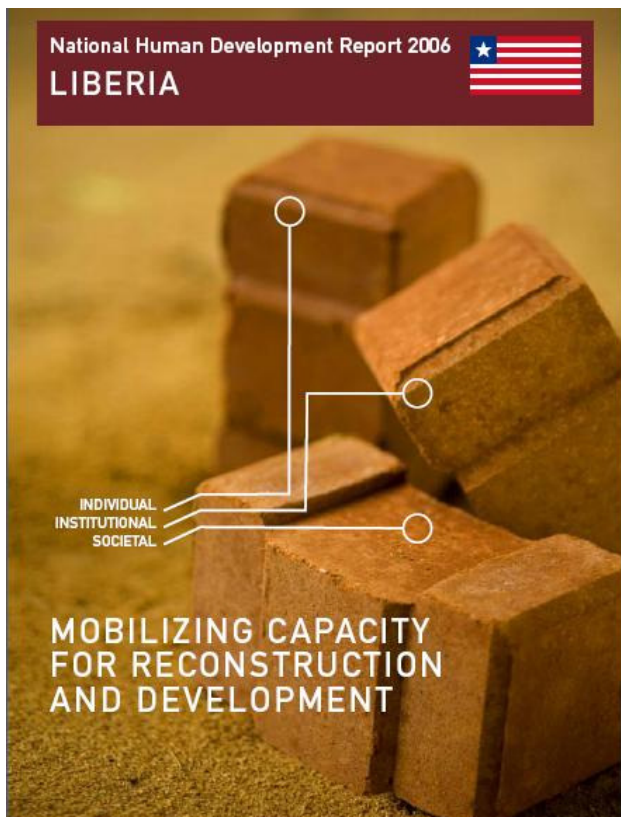
NHDR Technical Committee



•Expert grp of persons (national/international broadly reprsts key stakeholders, ensured:

- Technical soundness/coherence of report;
- Quality control (data and analysis);
- Appropriateness of methodology
- Indep of analysis, conclusions recommendations;

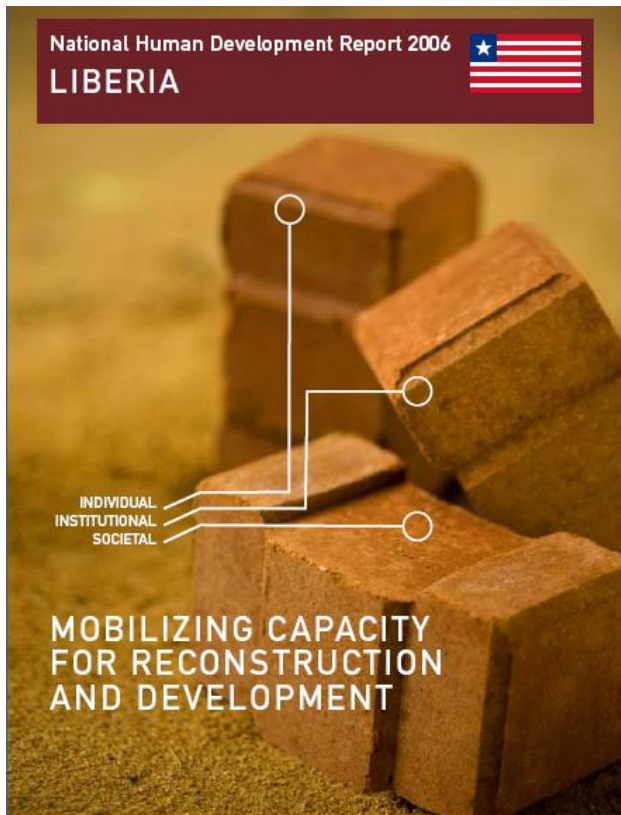
•Also ensured adherence to the criteria (**national ownership; participatory and inclusive preparation; independence of analysis; quality of analysis;flexibility & creativity in presentation; sustained follow-up**)



Overview of Content



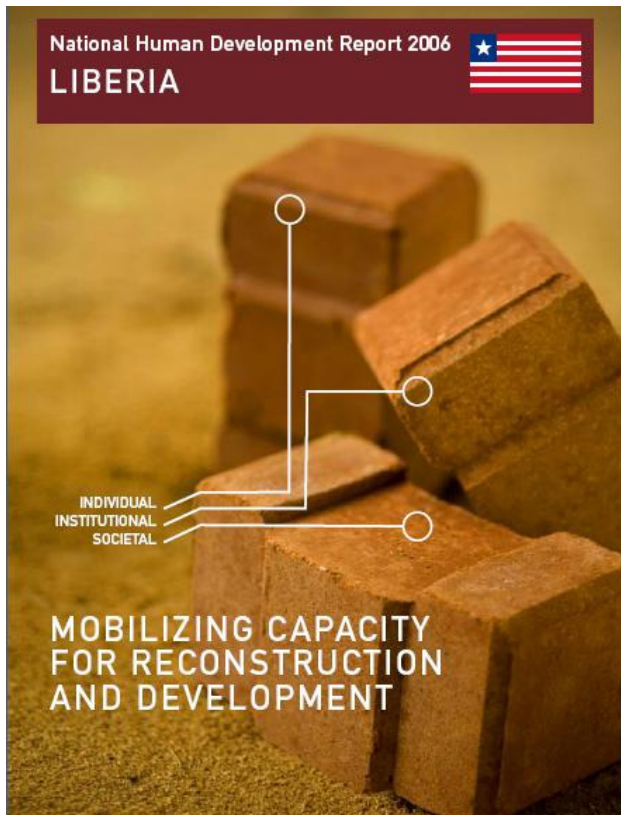
Follows the tradition of the HD approach and presents its content in seven chapters, incl an overview/executive summary



key messages of the report:

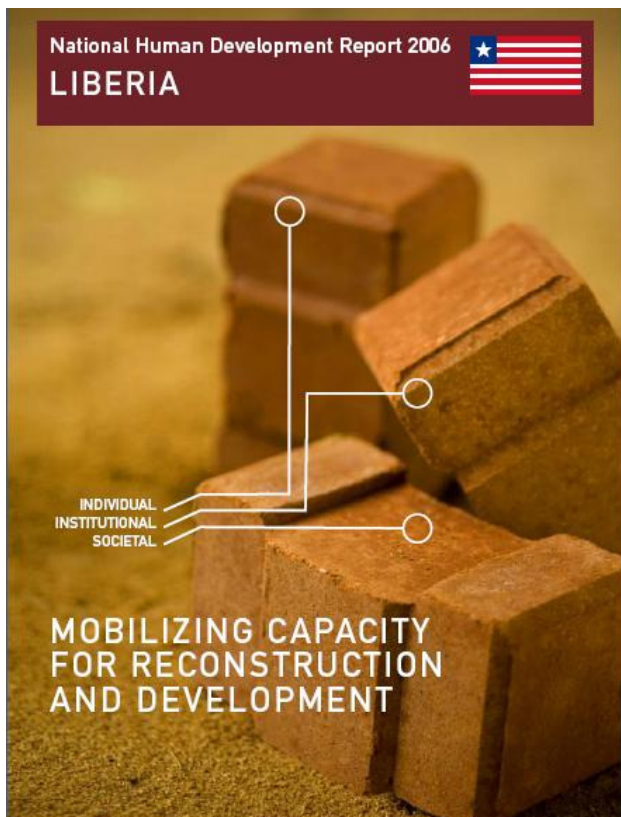
- If it doesn't change peoples lives and livelihoods dev will be meaningless;
- Human development 'costs' of conflict- eroded capacity and poverty;
- Holistic capacity building agenda – individual, institutional/organiz, societal;
- National capacity agenda linked to a vision;
- National capacity building strategy starting with a capacity needs assessment

Concept/Dimensions of HD



- Chap 1 traces the evolution of the concept, dimensions and measurements of HD;
- Argues that dev goes beyond incomes to incld access to choices and oport for a tolerable life
- In HD terms, poverty is not only lack of incomes, nor is dev equated with income expansion
- Poverty manifests itself in multiple ways: ill health, ignorance, malnutrition, exclusion from decision-making, denial of rights, loss of dignity, self-esteem, etc
- introduces the measures of HD – HDI, HPI, GEM and GDI

HD Family of Indices

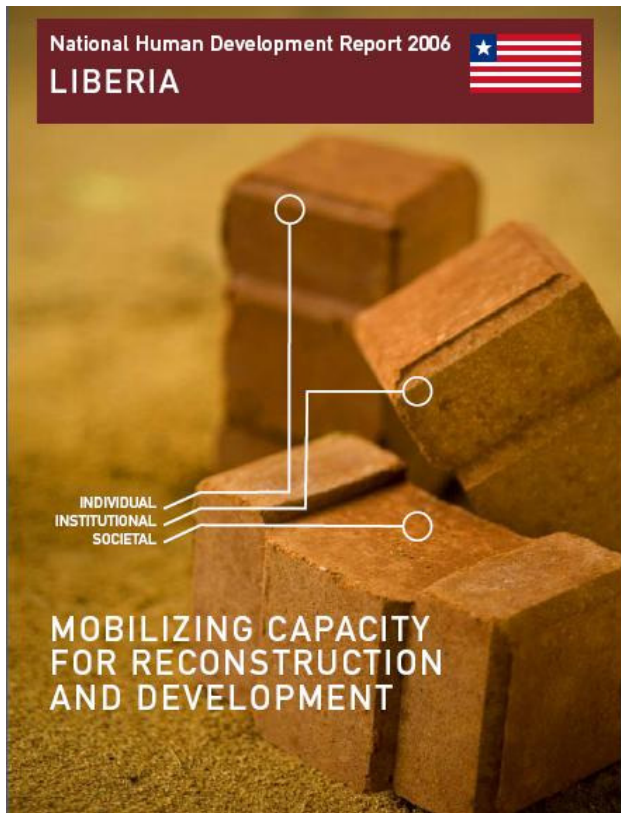


- *HDI (Human Development Index)*:
 - Summary measure of human development
- *GDI (Gender Development Index)*:
 - HDI but adjusted for gender inequality
- *GEM (Gender Empowerment Measure)*:
 - Captures gender equality in economic and political participation and decision making
- *HPI (Human Poverty Index)*:
 - Captures the human deprivation in a country

Liberia's HDI Trend 1970-2005



1970	1985	1991	1992	1993	1999	2005
0.194	0.269	0.220	0.325	0.311	0.276	0.319



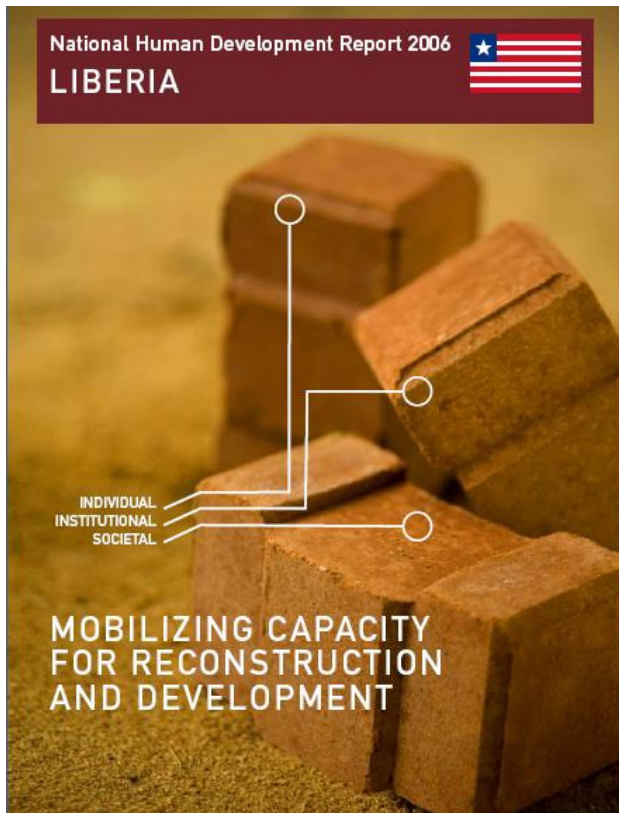
HDIs in selected West African Countries, and others (HDR 2005, 177 Countries)

Sierra Leone.	0.298 (L - 176)
Nigeria...	0.453 (L - 158)
Gambia...	0.470 (L - 470)
Togo.....	0.512 (M - 143)
Ghana....	0.520 (138 - M)
Cote d'Ivoire...	0.420 (L - 163)
Mali.....	0.333 (L - 174)
Norway...	0.963 (H - 1)
Libya	0.799 (M - 58)

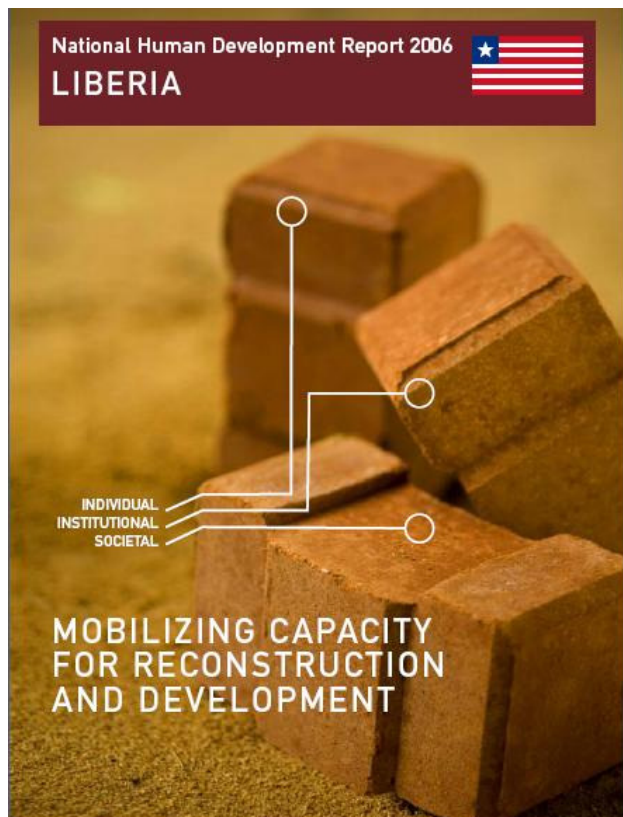
Human Dev Situation in Liberia



- **Chap 2 presents a snapshot of the HD situation in Liberia**
- **Analyses the factors that have given rise to the persistent low level of HD in Liberia:**
 - **Low, declining economic performance worsened by the conflict, paralysis in the real sectors; near total collapse in growth, depressed household incomes; collapsed real sector (agric., forestry, mining, manufacturing, etc)**
 - **Declining export trade (from \$460m in prior to the civil war to a mere \$25m in 1997)**
 - **Low financial indicators/Inflation and depreciation**
 - **Debilitating debt burden (exceeded \$3m in 2003)**
 - **Lack of provision of basic social services leaving majority of people impoverished.**



HD Situation in Liberia, cont'd



- Surveys the governance & institutional landscape
- Despite data constraints, calculates the HD indices to establish the status, trend, disparities
- Links MDGs & HD, analyses Liberia's performance relative to the MDGs, using the 2004 MDGR to provide an MDGs "Balance Sheet" for Liberia
- Overall the picture: gloomy and unless drastic measures are put in place at the realm of policy, institutions and legal reform, Liberia will continue to retrogress and thus further depress its HD indices in the years ahead.

HD 'Costs' of the Liberia Conflict



- Most astounding message of this report – 14 yrs of conflict inflicted major setbacks on a fragile state, devastated society and rolled back the little HD gains made in the pre-war years
- ‘Costs’ were incurred with respect to human lives, lost assets and incomes, dignity, livelihoods, brutal and dehumanising derivatives of the conflict, eg physical, sexual and gender-based violence, etc its beyond statistics

HD costs of Liberia's conflict, cont'd



The report examines other costs of the conflict as follows:

Slowed econ growth, lost assets and income

Lost opportunities in education and manpower dev

Deteriorated health, access to water

Environmental costs/breakdown on energy sources

Displacement, insecurity and crime

Concludes by presenting a strategic challenge: "Paying the Price" of Conflict

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Capacity Building Issues & Challenges



Chap 4 makes a case for making capacity building a priority in the immediate term

Takes a holistic view of capacity building:

Individual: human capital/numbr & quality, skills mix; involves knowledge, practical skills, mindsets, values, perceptions, etc

Institutional/organisational: mandates, structures, missions, functions, pay packages, management systems, corporate culture, operational processes;resources – facilities, equipment, etc

Societal: civic awareness, cultural values, inter-communal relations, civil liberties, etc



National Development

Capacity
Development

Human
Development

The Accumulation of human, organizational and societal capabilities will allow people to make informed and wider choices in securing better lives for themselves and their dependents. The result is greater human development, which in real terms leads to improved national development.



Past efforts at capacity building



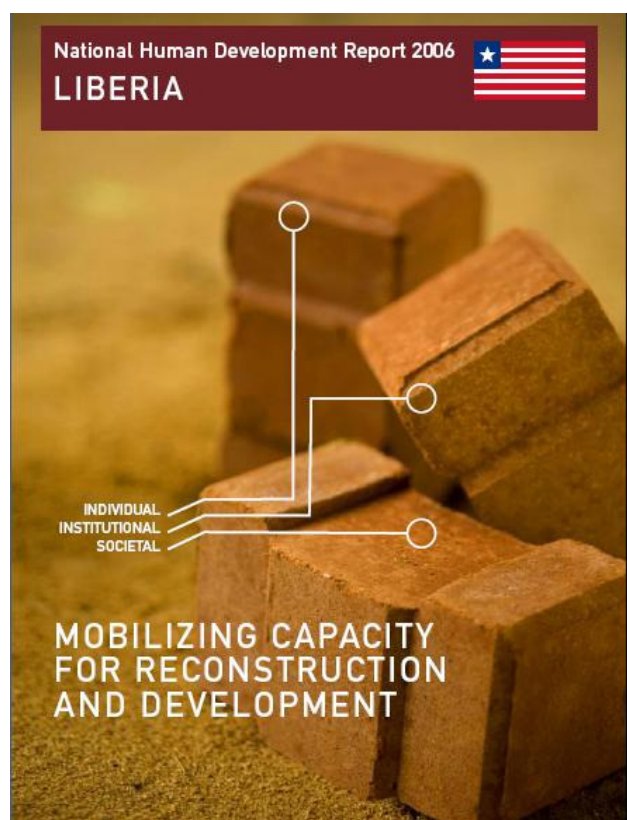
- Substantial investments made previously on cap building, going back to 50s & 60s:
- 32.8% of the US\$792.8m Liberia received in ext assist betwn 1983-1988 was allocated to cap building, eg
 - Tubman’s Special Commission on Gvt Operations - SCOGO (1959)
 - UN-funded Harvard Advisory Group in the 1960s
 - the 1960 US funded Carl Shoup Tax Reform Commission

Past efforts at cap building, cont'd



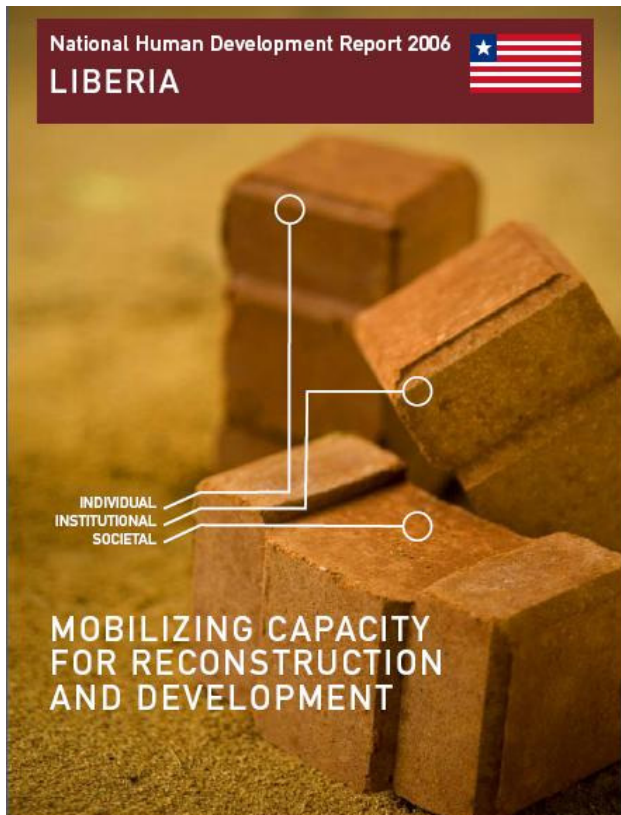
- The UN funded Task Force on Decentralization of Admin in the 1970s
- The 1985 US funded Operational Experts (OPEX) project- the so-called “17 Wise-Men”
- The report analyses the reasons for the failure of these initiatives, mainly short-term, driven by the exigencies of crisis, rather than genuine reform;
- Objectives were not clearly identified, were externally-driven and not based on a clear diagnosis of the country’s long-term capacity needs; political commitment varied and often changed at will.

Capacity building & techn assistance



- In light of past experience analyses under what conditions technical assistance will either strengthen or undermine endogenous capacity building efforts
- An examination is made of attempts to address capacity building in the transitional years primarily thro' the RFTF and post transitional years (GEMAP); and argues for the need to avoid the mistakes of the past in designing and implementing such progrms

Building Blocks of a Capacity Dev Agenda in Post-Conflict Liberia



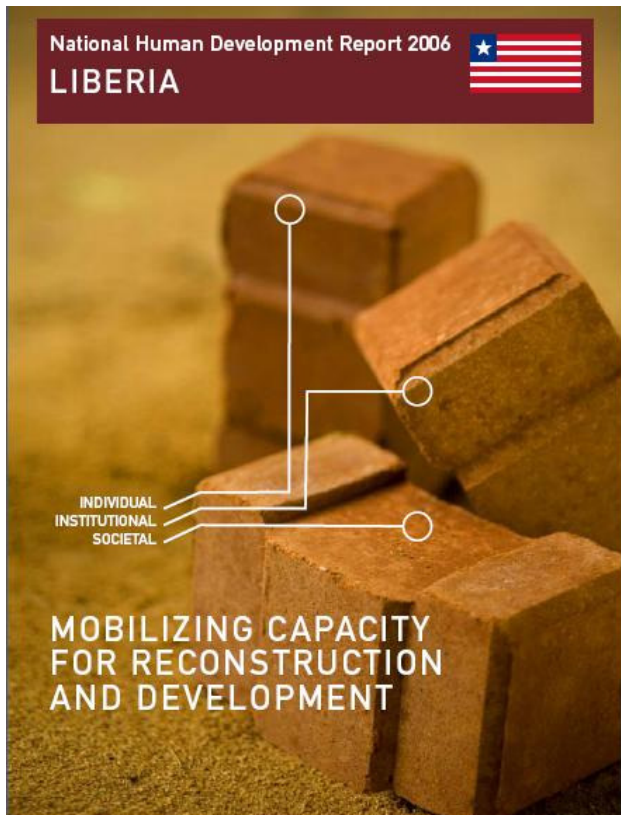
1. **Fostering National Reconciliation and Sustaining Peace;**
2. **Restoring damaged social capital**
3. **Reforming the governance system**
4. **Strengthening national management capacity;**
5. **Fighting corruption**
6. **Developing a strategic framework starting with a capacity needs assessment to define entry points**

7-point Agenda for Cap Building in Liberia



- 1. Re-building Govt Capacity**
 - 1. Addressing urgent transitional human resource needs**
 - 2. Developing a national capacity dev programme**
 - 3. Promoting donor coordination on cap dev, led by govt**
 - 4. Strengthening policy management capacity**
 - 5. Undertaking a country cap profile**
 - 6. Building and maintaining reliable database**

That's all, folks!



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