

# The Expert Group for Aid Studies

# Invitation for proposals: Evaluation of the longterm development cooperation between Liberia and Sweden, 2003-2021

The Expert Group for Aid Studies (EBA) is a government committee mandated to evaluate and analyse the direction, governance and implementation of Sweden's official development assistance (ODA). EBA engages researchers and other experts to carry out studies of relevance for policymakers and practitioners.

EBA works with 'dual independence'. This means that EBA independently defines what issues to explore and which studies to commission, while the author(s) of each report is responsible for the content and the conclusions.

EBA hereby invites proposals for an evaluation of the long-term development cooperation between Liberia and Sweden 2003-2021, within the areas of (i) conflict, peace and security; (ii) democracy and human rights; (iii) inclusive economic development.

# **Background**

Sweden has a long history of bilateral, long-term, development cooperation, mainly managed by Sida (The Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency) and guided by country strategies, with considerable autonomy at the embassy-level. In addition, large parts of Sweden's development cooperation in partner countries are guided by other strategies (for example, humanitarian assistance, civil society organisations and research cooperation).

In 2012, Sida presented a comprehensive evaluation of Swedish aid to Vietnam, Laos and Sri Lanka – development cooperation that was initiated more than 40 years ago. This was the first time that an independent evaluation of Swedish aid had such a long-term perspective. In 2016, EBA launched two country evaluations, one examining factors and processes in the cooperation with Uganda (EBA 2016:09) and one assessing the contribution of Swedish aid to long-term poverty reduction in Tanzania (EBA 2016:10). Thereafter, EBA has commissioned one evaluation of

Sweden's contribution to economic development in Bosnia & Herzegovina between 1995-2018 (EBA 2018:10); one evaluation of the long-term development cooperation focusing on democracy and human rights in Cambodia (EBA 2019:04) and one of Swedish development cooperation with Ethiopia over several decades (forthcoming). All these evaluations focus on a limited number of objectives for Sweden's bilateral development cooperation.

EBA has now decided to commission an evaluation of the long-term development cooperation between Liberia and Sweden, focusing on the period following the Second Liberian Civil war that ended in 2003.

# Long-term development cooperation between Liberia and Sweden

Liberia is still recovering from the civil wars that ended almost 20 years ago (2003) and that lasted altogether 14 years. An important event in recent times is the Ebola outbreak in West Africa during the period 2014-2016, which most strongly affected Liberia in 2014 and 2015. When the Covid-19 pandemic hit the country along with the rest of the world, Liberia was still recovering from the Ebola crisis, which killed thousands and devastated the economy. Liberia's economy recovered somewhat in 2021 after having shrunk two years in a row (World Bank, 2021). GDP growth is estimated at 3.6% in 2021, which means that GDP per capita is increasing for the first time since 2016. Despite this, the country's poverty rate is expected to increase somewhat in the coming years.

In 2021, official development assistance (ODA) accounted for 20 per cent of Liberia's gross national income. In terms of international relative socio-economic ranking, in 2021 Liberia was ranked 67<sup>th</sup> out of 179 countries on V-Dem's Liberal Democracy Index and categorized as an electoral democracy. The same year it was ranked 175<sup>th</sup> out of 189 countries in the UNDP's Human Development Index and assessed to suffer from high levels of corruption (placed 137 out of 179 countries in 2020 on the Corruption Perceptions Index). Liberia is also one of the world's least gender equal countries (ranked 156<sup>th</sup> out of 162 countries in the Gender Inequality Index in 2019). After the civil war, the country has experienced high levels of sexual and gender-based violence.

Even if this evaluation focuses on the period after 2003, Liberia was one of Sweden's first development cooperation countries. As early as 1962, Sweden signed an agreement with Liberia regarding the construction of a school for vocational training in connection with investments by the mining company LAMCO (a Liberian-American-Swedish ore-mining company in the northern parts of the country). But during the Civil Wars (1989-1996, 1999-2003), Swedish development assistance, including humanitarian aid, was low.

From 2004 until 2008 cooperation to Liberia was included in the regional strategy for development cooperation with West Africa. The strategy aimed for a transition from humanitarian aid to long-term development cooperation, focusing on reconstruction. The first "real" bilateral strategy with the country spanned the years

2008-2013. The Swedish Embassy in Monrovia opened in 2010 and Sweden appointed an ambassador with full time presence in the country in 2013. The focus of the three most recent strategies regarding goals and results areas has gradually broadened at the same time as the volume of development assistance slowly has increased (table below).

Swedish strategies for Liberia, 2008-2025					
2008 – 2013	2016 – 2020	2021-2025			
The overarching goal is "to strengthen peace, respect for human rights, democratic governance and the effective implementation of Liberia's poverty reduction strategy	Strengthened democracy and gender equality, and greater respect for human rights -Strengthened capacity in public administration -Strengthened rule of law -Increased capacity of civil society to promote accountability and respect for human rights -A more inclusive society, with focus on increased participation of women in political processes -Increased respect for and access to sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR)	Human rights, democracy, the rule of law and gender equality -Strengthened preconditions for human right, democracy, the rule of land and reduced corruption -Increased gender equality, including reduced genderbased violence and access to and respect for sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR)			
	Safeguarding human security and freedom from violence -Strengthened capacity to prevent and manage the consequences of sexual and gender-based violence - Strengthened conflict resolution and reconciliation initiatives at local and national level	Peaceful and inclusive societies -Strengthened preconditions for sustainable peace and inclusive societies			
Agricultural development and business, including regional and international trade -More productive and income-generating employment levels for poor women and men, mainly in agriculture	Better opportunities and tools to enable poor people to improve their living conditions - Improved conditions for inclusive and sustainable economic development, with focus on small-scale and sustainable farming	Inclusive economic development -Strengthened preconditions for productivity and access to domestic and international markets -Increased opportunities for productive employment with decent working conditions			

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-Improved conditions for	- Increased production of	
women's enterprise and	and improved access to	
participation in	renewable energy	
business	- Improved conditions,	
-Increased business	especially for women and	
activities and trade, by	young people, for	
improving the business and	productive employment	
investment climate.	with decent working	
	conditions	
	- Strengthened conditions	
	for free and fair trade	
		Environmentally and
		climate-related sustainable
		development and
		sustainable use of natural
		resources
		-Sustainable management
		and use of natural
		resources, including
		biodiversity
		-Increased access to
		renewable energy and
		increased energy
		effectiveness
		-Limited climate impact and
		increased resilience to
		climate change
	l	<u> </u>

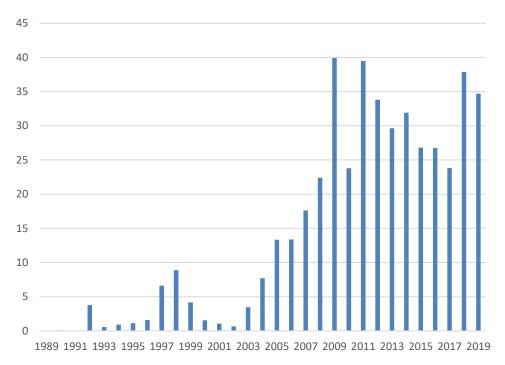
The focus on peace/security, democracy/human rights and inclusive economic development relates here to several specific prioritized and particularly important subsectors and issues in the portfolio (table below). There are quite strong connections and possible synergies between the tree areas (land rights are strongly related to conflicts in Liberia, rule of law is strongly connected to policing, employment and inclusive economic development may prevent conflicts etc.).

Peace and security	Democracy and human rights	Inclusive ec. Dev.	
<ul> <li>Security sector, policing</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>State and public sector</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Access to markets</li> </ul>	
<ul> <li>Local conflict,</li> </ul>	capacity	and infrastructure	
peacebuilding	The rule of law	<ul> <li>Employment and</li> </ul>	
<ul> <li>Conflict resolution</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Sexual and reproductive</li> </ul>	decent work	
<ul> <li>Sexual and gender-</li> </ul>	health and rights	<ul> <li>Women's enter-</li> </ul>	
based violence	Women's participation in	prise & business	
<ul> <li>Women's participation</li> </ul>	political and democratic	participation	
in peace processes	processes	Effective	
<ul> <li>Reconciliation</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Land rights and</li> </ul>	agriculture	
Social cohesion	management	Trade	
• Disarmament,	<ul> <li>Corruption</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Public financial</li> </ul>	
Demobilization and	Elections	management	
Reintegration	<ul> <li>Decentralisation</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Assess to Energy</li> </ul>	
	<ul> <li>LGBT Rights</li> </ul>		

Sweden was in 2019 Liberia's sixth largest donor overall, with the USA being the largest. Sweden was at the same time the largest European donor to Liberia (excluding the EU) and the second largest bilateral donor (after the USA). In total, Sweden's development assistance amounted to 11% of the total development assistance to the country in 2018 (Openaid.se). In its strategy reporting, Sida (2020) states that "Sweden plays a special role in Liberia and is one of the largest bilateral donors with a significant presence and one of the EU Member States with the largest embassy presence". During the first years after the end of the war in 2003, Swedish development assistance focused mainly on the conflict situation.<sup>1</sup>

From 2003, Swedish official development assistance to Liberia increased sharply from very low levels. Since 2009, it has remained at a high, albeit volatile, level (figure 1).

Figure 1: Swedish official development assistance to Liberia, 1989- 2019 (constant million USD)



Source: OECD DAC, Creditor Reporting System

In 2020, the Liberia strategy was Sida's tenth largest in terms of disbursed funds to sub-Saharan Africa (SEK 305 million). With its small population, this means that Sweden's per capita assistance to Liberia is quite high.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> In addition to development assistance, the Swedish Armed Forces contributed to the UNMIL peacekeeping force from 2004 to 2006.

Swedish development assistance to Liberia is channelled primarily through multilateral (e.g. UNFPA, UN Women, UNDP, the World Bank) and civil society organisations (e.g. The Carter Center, Mercy Corps, the Church of Sweden, RFSU, Forum Civ, Kvinna till kvinna). Smaller volumes are channelled through the public sector, increasingly as capacity-strengthening through Swedish government agencies, such as the Swedish Tax Agency, The Swedish Mapping and Cadastral and Land Registration Authority, The Swedish Police, Statistics Sweden and the Swedish National Audit Office.<sup>2</sup>

According to the latest strategy, Sweden should work for a coherent and effective donor coordination in the country, not least through active participation in the EU's joint programming and in cooperation with relevant multilateral actors.<sup>3</sup>

#### Aim

The aim of this evaluation is twofold:

- 1. To gain an in-depth understanding of the relevance, coherence and long-term results of Swedish development cooperation with Liberia (2003-2021) within the areas of (i) conflict, peace, and security; (ii) democracy and human rights, and (iii) inclusive economic development.
- 2. To generate lessons to inform future Swedish development cooperation with Liberia as well as with other partner countries.

EBA expects the evaluation to deepen the knowledge and understanding of how to manage, develop and secure effective development cooperation interventions in Liberia and to highlight lessons learned that may inform current Swedish development cooperation as well as future strategies and interventions in the country and beyond.

Five evaluation questions shall guide the evaluation:

- 1. Has Sweden formulated appropriate strategies for Liberia in terms of realism, feasibility, development constraints and opportunities at various periods in time?
- 2. Has Sweden supported a relevant and coherent portfolio of activities considering the Swedish and Liberian country strategies, policies, priorities, and needs over time?<sup>4</sup>

en/1/3/4/index.html?itemId=/content/publication/543e84ed-

en& csp =535d2f2a848b7727d35502d7f36e4885&itemIGO=oecd&itemContentType =book#chapter-d1e2438. A thorough and elaborated evaluation of relevance is expected (see Samoff, 2021).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> See also supplementary Excel file with all interventions financed by Sweden via Sida between 2003 and 2023

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> The strategy report for 2020 notes that the possibility to get an overview of Liberia's donor landscape has increased after the launch of the Liberian version of Sida's OpenAid in 2020. (<u>Liberia Project Dashboard (liberiaprojects.org)</u>.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> The criteria relevance and coherence are explained here. <a href="https://www.oecd-ilibrary.org/sites/543e84ed-">https://www.oecd-ilibrary.org/sites/543e84ed-</a>

- 3. Has Swedish development cooperation with Liberia contributed to sustainable results in terms of peace and security, democracy and human rights, and inclusive economic development? If so, in what way and how?
- 4. Has Sida coordinated its initiatives effectively with other Swedish and international actors in Liberia to enable synergies, safeguard collaboration, minimise unjustified overlaps and strengthen the combined result where appropriate?<sup>5</sup>
- 5. What lessons can inform Swedish development cooperation with Liberia ahead?

Gender equality should be an integrated horizontal perspective of the evaluation.<sup>6</sup>

# Who is this evaluation for? Target group(s)

The main target group of this evaluation is the staff responsible for Swedish development cooperation at the Swedish Embassy in Monrovia, at the Swedish MFA and at Sida's Department for Africa as well as in Liberian state authorities and agencies. A particularly important target group is those responsible for the renewal, implementation, and monitoring of the Swedish strategy for Liberia before and after 2025. Secondary target groups include people with an interest in Liberia or development cooperation in general, Swedish media and the general public in Sweden and Liberia.

# Implementation and methods

The main objective of the evaluation is to provide grounded, rigorous, and elaborated responses to the five evaluation questions above. However, tenderers are encouraged to let their expertise guide the choice of approach in answering the evaluation questions (including the design of the analytical framework, specific methodological approach, and delimitations). We hope that this open approach will be attractive and encourage innovation in submitted proposals.

The evaluation is expected to place Sweden's contributions in a broader Liberian development context in terms of peace, conflict, security, economic development. democracy, human rights and gender equality, including other donors' engagement in the country. Proposals should also show how the evaluation questions will be analysed taking into account research-based knowledge regarding Liberia, peace, security, economic development, democracy, and human rights.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Our premise is that effective coordination should be analysed as a means in relation to the results of the operations (i.e. in relation to question 3). Potential underlying evaluation questions for question 4 are: Are there any signs of coordination problems? What are the coordination mechanisms/coordination arenas? How are these used? In coordination, do problems/solutions arise along the way? How do the mechanisms contribute towards the results attained? Are the mechanisms cost-effective and sufficiently extensive? Can they be improved? Cf. Utvärdering som hantverk - bortom mallar och manualer, Kim Forss, Studentlitteratur, 2007.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> See e.g. Bjarnegård and Uggla, 2018.

The issue of causality should be analysed carefully. Scientific method(s) suited to this purpose must be employed to ensure valid and reliable findings and conclusions, and a high degree of transparency should be applied. Examples of evaluation designs that can be considered are case-based, system-based, and theory-based approaches, such as Theory-driven evaluation (Chen, 1990), contribution analysis (Mayne, 2012), process-tracing (Beach & Pedersen, 2013) or a combination of statistical and qualitative approaches. Choices regarding study design and specific methods should be carefully motivated.

One possibility is to combine a focus on a smaller number of larger, typical, or most different long-term interventions under each of the tree strategy goals (peace/security, democracy/human rights and inclusive economic development) with an analysis of the portfolio as a whole. Proposals that include qualitative case studies should clearly and exhaustively describe principles and the intended process of case selection. The fact that the portfolio is quite large makes it particularly important to have a well thought-through and precise selection strategy.

Potentially important empirical material for the study includes written sources from Sida and other Swedish actors and evaluations, mid-term reviews, final reports, other donors' evaluations, previous research etc. Written documents produced by other international actors working in Liberia may also be relevant. While there is no requirement for the main applicant to understand Swedish, the evaluation team should include someone with the ability to analyse documents written in Swedish.

It is important that the study contributes to learning for key audiences. This underlines the importance of attempting to understand how and why results have been achieved or not, and how contextual factors have played in.

If needed, the evaluator(s) are given the opportunity to refine or adjust the formulation of the five questions after the award decision and in dialogue with the study's reference group.

EBA works with 'dual independence'. This means that EBA independently defines what issues to explore and which studies to commission. The content and the conclusion of each report is, however, the responsibility of the author(s).

For all studies, EBA sets up a reference group consisting of experts in the field of study (members are designated by EBA in dialogue with the authors). The overall purpose of the reference group is to strengthen the quality of the report. The group will be chaired by one of EBA's members. See also EBAs Policy and guidelines for quality assurance of studies (<a href="https://eba.se/en/policy-for-quality-assurance/">https://eba.se/en/policy-for-quality-assurance/</a>)

The evaluator(s) shall deliver a report (in English) presenting the results from the study to be published in EBA report series. The length of the report should not exceed 40 000 words (about 80 A4-pages), excluding annexes (www.eba.se/en/published-reports/).

The evaluator(s) shall present the final report at a public dissemination event (details to be specified in consultation with EBA at a later stage).

# Procurement procedure, budget, and timetable

The procedure will be a restricted procedure in two stages.<sup>7</sup> At both stages, tenderers are expected to disclose potential conflicts of interest pertaining to members in the evaluation team, as this may be a ground for exclusion of a proposal.

First stage: Application to submit tenders

All suppliers have the right to apply to submit tenders (expression of interest). EBA will invite five (5) suppliers to submit tenders.

Applications to submit tenders shall be registered at the tender portal Kommers Annons eLite www.kommersannons.se/elite, no later than 9 May 2022. The application shall contain:

- 1. CV of the team leader/principal investigator
- 2. A list of the team leader/principal investigator's most relevant publications (at most 10 studies from the last 10 years are to be listed)
- 3. Preliminary team (if more than one author. Described using at most 300 words.)
- 4. Three full sample studies conducted by members of the proposed team. At least one shall have been authored by the team leader/principal investigator. Note that the studies should be sent in as files, not as links in a document.
- 5. A short account for how, according to the authors, respective study has contributed to new, reliable, knowledge of relevance for this evaluation (at most 300 words, i.e. 100 words per study).

Applicants are kindly asked not to submit any unsolicited material.

Selection of applicants to invite to submit tenders will be based on the submitted material assessed against sub-criteria 1-5 of criterion 2 (see the table at the end of this document). Since the proposed team is preliminary, main weight will be put on the team leader/principal investigator's experience and competence.

Suppliers must submit a self-declaration in the form of a European Single Procurement Document (ESPD) by filling in the tender form at

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> The Public Procurement Act (2016:1145), chapter 6, section 3.

www.kommersannons.se/elite. Please make sure enough time is allocated for completing the ESPD form when submitting the expression of interest.

Second stage: Submission of tenders

Selected suppliers are invited to submit a full proposal. The proposal shall be written in English and no longer than <u>13 pages</u>. The proposal shall include a detailed presentation of study design, methods used and delimitations. Choices made shall be clearly justified. It is up to the tenderers themselves to choose the design and method of the evaluation. The proposal shall also include a presentation of the members of the evaluation team, a detailed schedule, allocation of time and tasks between the members of the group, and a budget (stated in SEK, including price per hour for each team member).

As appendices to the proposal shall be included: (i) CVs; (ii) at most three sample studies (reports or articles) carried out by members of the proposed team. At least one shall have been authored by the team leader/principal investigator. These studies may be the same as or different from the ones in the first stage; (iii) A brief account for how, according to the authors, respective study has contributed to new, reliable, knowledge of relevance for this evaluation (at most 300 words, i.e. 100 words per study, may be the same as or different from the application to submit tenders).

The maximum cost for this evaluation is <u>SEK 2 200 000 excl. VAT.</u> The budget shall be denominated in SEK. The budget shall enable three to four meetings with the study's reference group (to be appointed by EBA), a workshop in Stockholm and participation at the launching event. The reference group will meet in Stockholm, but one or two meetings may be conducted by video link.

The proposal shall be registered at the tender portal Kommers Annons eLite www.kommersannons.se/elite, no later than 7 September 2022. Tenderers are advised to monitor the tender portal regularly, as it is not possible to guarantee the receipt of e-mails.

Proposals shall be valid until 31 december 2022.

Questions to EBA during the process

During the procurement process, EBA is not permitted to discuss documentation, tenders, evaluation or any such questions with tenderers in a way that benefits one or more tenderers. All questions shall be sent to the Questions and Answers function on the procurement portal Kommers Annons eLite, www.kommersannons.se/elite. Questions and answers to questions are published anonymously and simultaneously to everyone registered for the procurement.

Any questions related to the first stage may be posed until 2 May 2022.

Any questions related to the second stage may be posed until 29 August 2022.

#### Preliminary timetable

Last day to apply to submit tenders (first stage)	9 May 2022	
Invitation to (5) suppliers to submit tenders	24 May 2022	
Last day to submit tender	7 September 2022	
Decision by EBA	October 2022	
Contract signed	October 2022	
First meeting with reference group	November 2022	
Draft report delivered	30 September 2023	
Second meeting with reference group	October 2023	
Final report delivered	November 2023	
Launch event	January 2024	

# Selection of proposals in the second stage

An assessment group comprising members of EBA will assess proposals received based on the relationship between price and quality. The following criteria will be used when assessing proposals received:

- Quality of proposal, in terms of design, methods and plan for implementation (weight: 50 per cent).
- Experiences and qualifications of team members in the areas of interest (weight: 40 per cent).
- Cost (weight: 10 per cent).

See the table at the end of this document for the factors that will be considered under each of these three criteria. The assessment of each proposal will be based on the material submitted by the tenderer by the end of the bidding period.

# Confidentiality

After the communication of EBA's selection, all submitted proposals will become official documents, meaning that the Swedish principle of public access to official records applies. Sentences, sections, or paragraphs in a document may be masked in the public version if "good reasons" (thorough motivations in terms of causing economic damage to the company) can be provided and deemed valid. The tenderers are fully responsible for making their claims of confidentiality.

# About the Expert Group for Aid Studies (EBA)

The Expert Group for Aid Studies (EBA) is a government committee mandated to evaluate and analyse the direction, governance, and implementation of Sweden's official development assistance. The aim is to contribute to an efficient implementation of well-designed aid. EBA focuses primarily on overarching issues within Swedish development assistance, not on individual projects. EBA consists of

an expert group of ten members, a co-opted expert from the MFA, and a secretariat placed in Stockholm.

In 2022 the Expert Group consists of: Helena Lindholm (chair), Johan Schaar (vice chair), Kim Forss, Torgny Holmgren, Sara Johansson De Silva, Staffan I. Lindberg, Magnus Lindell, Joakim Molander, Julia Schalk, Janet Vähämäki and Anders Trojenborg (co-opted expert from the Swedish MFA).

#### References

Evaluation Study of Long-Term Development Co-operation between Vietnam and Sweden, Mark McGillivray, David Carpenter, Stewart Norup, Sida Evaluation 2012:2.

Nation Building in a Fractured Country: An Evaluation of Swedish Cooperation in Economic Development with Bosnia and Herzegovina 1995-2018, Claes Lindahl, Julie Lindahl, Mikael Söderbäck and Tamara Ivankovic (2018), EBA 2018:10.

Supporting State-Building for Democratisation? A Study of 20 Years of Swedish Democracy Aid to Cambodia, Andersen, Henny, Karl-Anders Larsson and Joakim Öjendal (2019), EBA 2019:03.

Exploring donorship Internal factors in Swedish aid to Uganda, Stein-Erik Kruse, EBA 2016:09

Assessment of the EBA's Country Evaluations: Quality, Use & Learning, Stern and Winckler Andersson, EBA Working Paper.

Adaptation of aid in situations of conflict and fragility A study of Sida's support system for conflict sensitivity and the case of Liberia, Sadev report 2012:7.

Seeking balanced ownership in changing development cooperation relationships, EBA 2018:08. With Case study on Liberia.

*Utvärdering som hantverk. Bortom mallar och manualer*. Kim Forss, Studentlitteratur, 2007.

Relevant? Almost always. Relevance in Development Cooperation. Working Paper. Joel Samoff, Expertgruppen för biståndsanalys. 2021.

Putting Priority into Practice: Sida's Implementation of its Plan for Gender Integration, Elin Bjarnegård and Fredrik Uggla, EBA Rapport 2018:07, Expertgruppen för biståndsanalys.

#### **Strategies**

Strategi för Sveriges utvecklingssamarbete med Liberia, 2021–2025 Strategi för Sveriges utvecklingssamarbete med Liberia, 2016-2020

Strategy for development cooperation with Liberia, July 2008 – June 2013 Strategy for Swedish development cooperation, West Africa, Burkina Faso, Mali, January 2004 – December 2006

#### Webb sources

www.liberiaprojects.org

www.openaid.se

<u>Liberia | Sida</u>

Publikationer om biståndet | Sida

# Appendix 1 – Assessment criteria

Criteria	Quality of proposal in terms of design, methods and plan for implementation.  (Weight: 50 per cent)	Experiences and qualifications of team members in the areas of interest.     (Weight: 40 per cent)	3. Cost. (Weight: 10 per cent)		
Scale	Criterion 1 and 2 are graded on a scale of 0–5 where: 5=Extraordinary or exceeds all expectation; 4=Very good; 3=Good; 2=Fair, reasonable, in line with what can be expected; 1=Substandard; 0=Not applicable/not possible to assess.  Sub-criteria are assessed in falling importance according to number but are not graded numerically.		Continuous grade [0,5] as a share of the lowest bid offer, where the lowest bid is graded 5.		
	Each criterion is finally weighted (0.50*Criterion 1+ 0,40*Criterion 2 + 0,10*Criterion 3) to obtain a total grade in the interval [0, 5].				
Specifications (numbered in order of importance)	<ol> <li>Does the study design, i.e. suggested methodological approach and plan for implementation, make it possible to fulfil the study's purpose?*</li> <li>Have the approach and method(s) been described in a specific and transparent manner?</li> <li>Have important or pertinent limitations with the method been described and discussed clearly?</li> <li>Will the study design enable conclusions that can be expected to form the basis of use, learning and reflection among the study's target groups?</li> <li>Does the proposal have a thorough and realistic workplan and timeline?</li> </ol>	The team participants' experience of:*  1. Evaluation or research in areas related to the topic, i.e. peace/security, democracy/human rights and economic development  2. Advanced evaluation or research methodology.  3. Liberia  4. Quality of the studies attached to the proposal.  5. Academic merits of the team members.  6. The team members' engagement in the evaluation as specified in the proposal's work and time plan and as shares of proposed budget.	Total price in SEK (VAT excl.)		
	* An overall assessment that the evaluation is feasible to implement and that it can be implemented without any ethical breaches occurring is presupposed. While such an appraisal is required, it is not included as a separate sub-criterion.	* Sufficient language skills in relation to the needs of the assignment are required to be shown and are therefore not specified as a separate sub-criterion.			