

UPDATE ON THE REVISION OF THE NATIONAL RICE DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY (NRDS) IN LIBERIA



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AGENDA

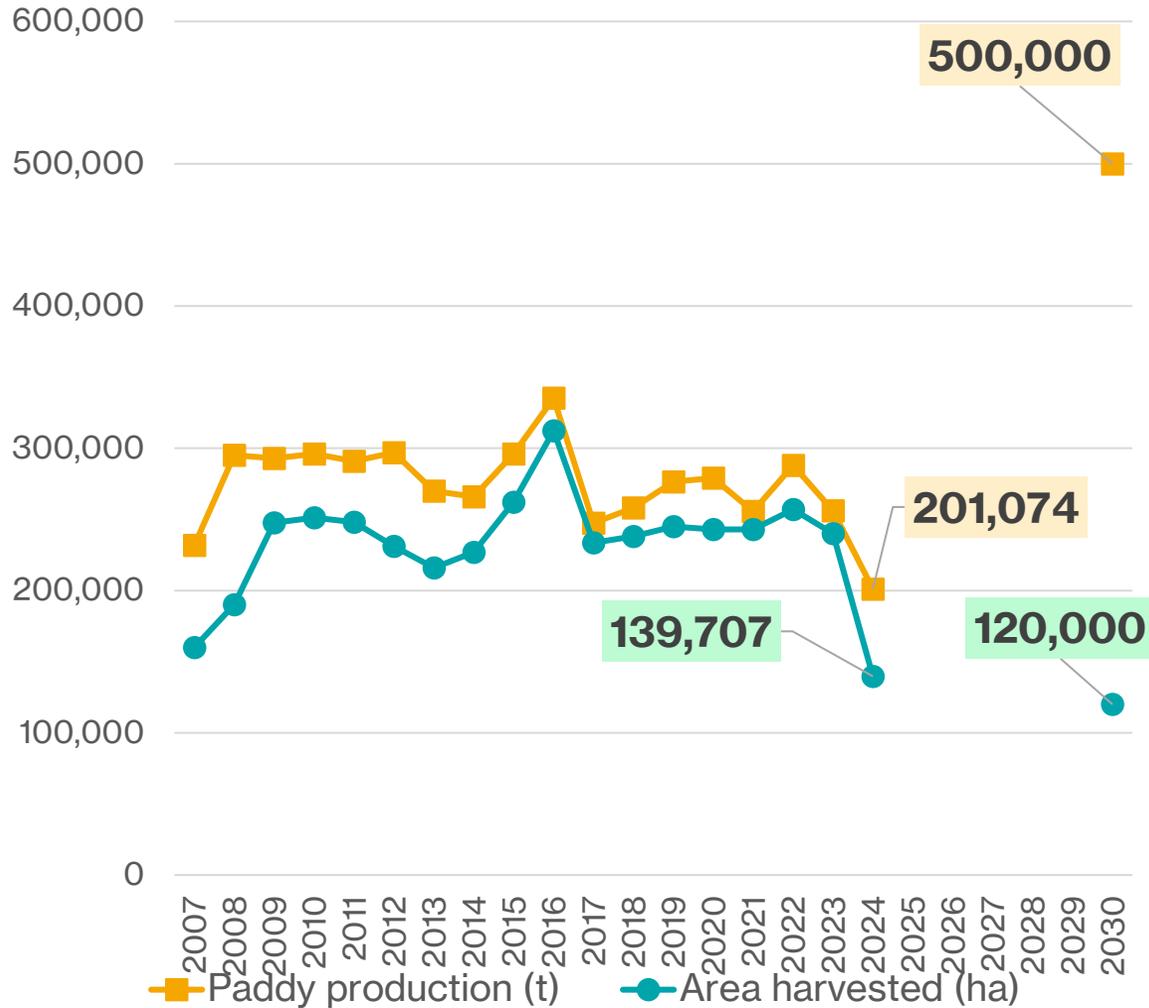
NATIONAL AGRICULTURE DEVELOPMENT
PLAN 2024-2030



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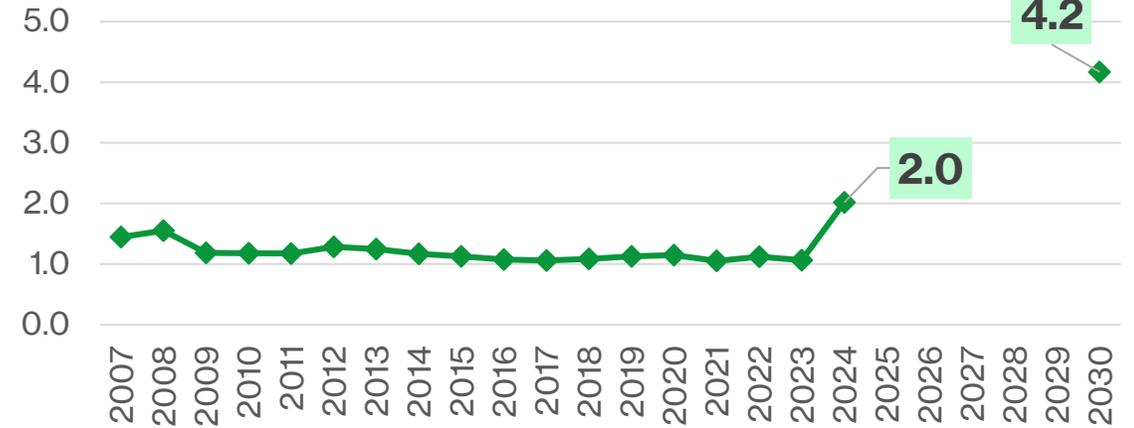
Overall indicators

Paddy production and Area harvested



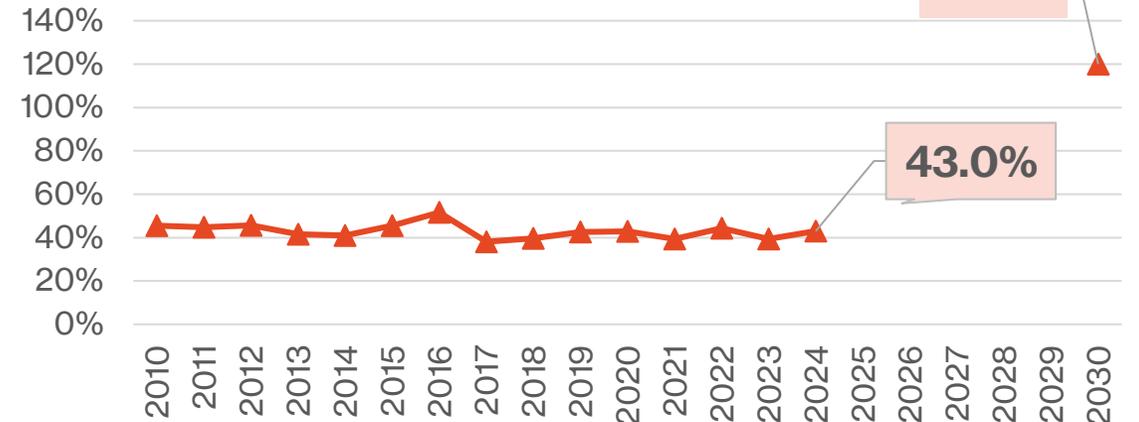
Source: FAO Stat (2025) & LAS2024

Yield (t/ha)



Source: FAO Stat (2025) & LAS(2024)

Self-sufficiency ratio (%)



Source: MOA estimates (2025)

Progress of CARD Activities Since GM9

Progress on NRDS Processes and Elaboration Phase/ Activities and Progress

- 1. Formulation/Revision of NRDS:** - The National Agriculture Development plan (NADP) goals include cultivation of 50,000 ha of lowland, anticipating yield of 3.5Mt per ha, toward 70 per cent self-sufficiency (import reduction) over 5 years.
- 2. Validation and Launching:** The process was validated twice [i.e. Technical and field validations] by stakeholders in May 2024. It was then launched by the President H.E. Joseph Nyumah Boakai on July 10, 2024.
- 3. Development of Concept notes:** The MOA planning team recurrently drafts concepts for projects when funding sources are identified. Also, the team prepares investment briefings for resource and funding mobilization. The team also in collaboration with DPs, reviews their concept notes to ensure alignment with the national agriculture strategies. Where agreed and necessary, MOA supports in the implementation and/or monitoring of the initiatives.
- 4. Ongoing:** The government is partnering with AUDA-NEPAD to align the *NADP with CAADP 2026-2035*. *The government is also partnering with Mastercard Foundation through IITA to formulate Youth Innovation in Agriculture Project*

Progress of CARD Activities Since GM9

Progress on NRDS related Projects

Project	Amount	Period	Funding Source	Stakeholder group
Seed4Liberia	6.9M USD	2024-2029	European Union (EU)	Development Partners
Mechanization Hubs (5 Completed, 8 ongoing)	4M USD	2025	Public Sector Investment Projects	Government Projects
Dam Rehabilitation	650K USD	2024	Public Sector Investment Projects	Government Projects
Processing facilities (Rice, cassava, cocoa, coffee, sugar, warehousing and logistics)	100M USD	2025-	Mainland Investment Group	Private Investment [Foreign]
Sustainable Rice Value Chain Enhancement Project	350K USD	2025-2026	Food and Agriculture Organization of the UN (FAO)	Development Partners
Industrial Rice Processing facility	30M USD	2025-	Supplying West Africa Trader Inc, LBR	Private Investment [Foreign]

Progress of CARD Activities since GM9

Progress on NRDS Monitoring Phase

5. Monitoring Data Setting:

- A successful workshop to build the capacity of the national task force was held in 2024. The new **RICE** indicators were introduced, and focal institutions for data collection/collation were assigned (2024)
- There was successful data collection for most of the indicators (2024)

6. Preparation for ARSRM [Joint Sector Review Mechanism]

- Proposing a broader approach to the upcoming ARSRM: The nature of agrifood systems and the pervasive importance of rice needs a multi-stakeholder approach; hence, tentatively considering a Joint Sector Review that priorities the Rice sub-sector.
- Leveraging on the strengthening collaboration between the agriculture, food and nutrition sectors.

7. Lobbying for funding: The NRDS (and the NADP) has been pitched by the Strategic leadership at several investment, trade and food conferences and meeting; some are:

- Africa Food System Forum (Sept 2025)
- Tokyo International Conference on African Development (Aug 2025)
- Second United Nations Food Systems Summit Stocktake (UNFSS+4)
- Forum on China-Africa Cooperation (2024)
- Africa Korea Summit in Kenya (2024)

Major Challenges in in the Implementation of NRDS

Challenges in terms of implementing the NRDS

- Limited data infrastructure, statistical tools and logistic to collaborate for data collection/collation and technical reviews/validations of data prior to submission;
- No support for short surveys toward production estimates, yield analysis and productivity projection of rice production
- Limited skills of TF entities in advance crop monitoring methods (remote sensing, satellite imagery] and analytics/agriculture statistics
- Lack of technical assistance and funds to develop specialized concept note / business cases for high value investment projects (irrigation, mechanization, land layout, processing, packaging, branding, tourism) to develop the rice sector.
- Limited in-person support and lacking of funding to facilitate regional and international travels of the strategic leadership teams to mobilize resources for the NRDS at conferences, events and investment meeting.

Action plans between now and the end of 2026

Action 1: Organizing the Annual Rice Sector Review Meeting (ARSRM)

- Conduct interviews with JICA Representatives, World Bank (WB) and the African Development Bank (AfDB) to identify the timing of the project detailing mission and discuss ways to image Liberia to attract investors into the rice value chains and the agriculture sector
- To review progress, understand current challenges and Plan appropriately for rice development

Action 2: A two-year work plan that includes review/mapping of rice stakeholders, and activities to strengthen collaboration of stakeholders (Govt, DPs, TF, agribusinesses and private investment) along the rice value chain and within the agriculture sector

- Support an assessment to review the sector, its status and stakeholders based on the NRDS goals.
- Develop a collaborative plan to implement and support activities to promote development of the rice and food value chains
- Fund technical meetings and capacity-building initiative as needed.

Action 3: Support the Liberia Rice Observatory Initiative

- Collaborations between the private and public sectors are being enhanced through regular sectoral discussions. In-kind, technical and funding supports, as needed, will be provided to relevant stakeholder groups (DPs, CSOs, private sectors, farmer org, research and relevant gov't entities) toward rice and rural development.