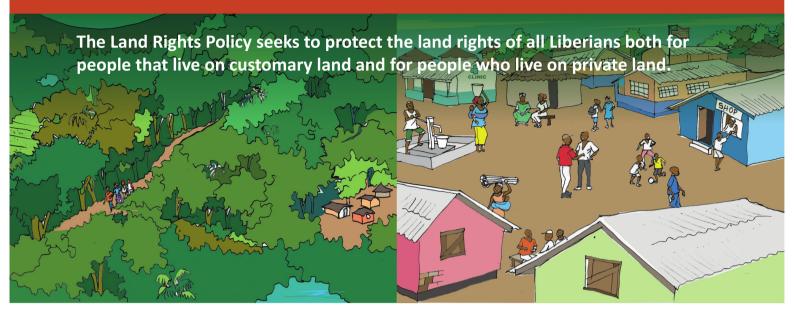
# What is the Land Rights Policy?



### The Land Rights Policy Defines Four Different Categories of Land

- 1 Private Land: land owned and deeded by one or more persons.
- 2 Customary Land: land owned and managed by a community according to customary norms and traditions.
- 3 Government Land: land that is owned by the government and used for government activities including offices of ministries, agencies, military bases; roads; public schools and public universities; public hospitals and clinics and much more.
- 4 Public Land: land that is not government land, customary land or private land and can be used for the general good of Liberia.

#### Communities will be able to own their land through the "Customary Land" category

#### Customary land will be:

- Equally protected: Customary Land Rights, will be equally protected as private land rights.
- Managed locally: Decisions about Customary land will be made at the local level, consistent with sound policy and shared responsibilities between the Government, communities and their members.

#### The components of Customary Land

- Communities own the land and natural resources including but not limited to water-bodies, land space, residential area, forest and non-timber products, swamps, life-trees, rocks, sand, farm land, etc.
- Communities have the right to management their land and natural resources.
- Communities have the rights to develop by-laws for the use and management of their land and natural resources.

#### How to obtain title

In order for communities to formalize/register their customary land they will have to first:

1 Self-identify: The process of community members determining the geographic identity of their community. Is it a village, town, clan, chiefdom, district, ...?

#### 2 Harmonize boundaries:

Work with neighboring communities to determine where community land stops and community land begins.

## 3 Land Use & Management Plan: Develop

a land use plan and by-laws for the use and management of community land.

4 Land Management Committee: Set-up a Land Management Committee for the management of community land and natural resources.

Note: Communities must establish themselves as legal entities with management institutions that are fully representative and accountable to all community members. including women, youth, and minorities



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