**Republic of Liberia**

**Infrastructure Implementation Unit (IIU)**

**Ministry of Public Works**

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**PUBLIC NOTICE**

**Revised Biodiversity Management Framework (BMF)**

**Subject: Disclosure of Revised Biodiversity Management Framework for SECRAMP and RETRAP Projects**

The government of Liberia intend to rehabilitate Ganta – Toe Town road (140km) to bitumen standard. The rehabilitation will be divided into two projects, i.e. Ganta to Tappita (100km) under the Southeastern Corridor Road Asset Management Project (SECRAMP) and Tappita to Toe Town (40km) under the Rural Economic and Transformation Project (RETRAP).

SECRAMP project is financed by the Government of Liberia (Lot 1: Ganta to Saglepie 39km) and World Bank-IDA (Lot 2: Saglepie to Tappita 61km); RETRAP is financed by the World Bank (IDA). Implementation of these projects is important to the economy of the country as it will enhance road connectivity for residents living along the Ganta-to-Toe Town Road Corridor, improve production and markets access for smallholder farmers for selected value chains

Safeguards instruments such as ESMF, RPF, ESIA and RAP were prepared and disclosed according to the World Bank environmental and social safeguards requirements. The ESIA study for RETRAP revealed the presence of a population of Western Chimpanzees near the road corridor. Due to the importance of Biodiversity and consistent with World Bank OP/BP 4.04 and ESS 6 the Ministry of Public Works through Infrastructure Implementation Unit (IIU) prepared a Biodiversity Management Framework (BMF) for both SECRAMP and RETRAP (as both fall within the same ecological landscape). The aim of the framework is to provide guidance for screening, assessing, addressing and managing of potential impacts on critical habitats and biodiversity especially endangered Western Chimpanzee from rehabilitation of the road corridor (Ganta to –Toe Town).

The BMF covers the following key elements:

* A short description of SECRAMP and RETRAP projects and activities which may impact habitat and biodiversity for different phases of the project
* Legal and instructional framework and World policies governing biodiversity conservation as well as environmental protection
* Description of stakeholder engagement during preparation of the BMF and provides guidance regarding engagement of stakeholders during implementation of the project
* Description of current state of biodiversity along the corridor and wider area
* Principles and steps for biodiversity management on construction and maintenance/operation phases of the projects
* Project potential impacts on biodiversity and proposed mitigation measures
* Arrangements for monitoring and implementation of biodiversity management framework

The Framework was disclosed to the public in March 2022 thought IIU website ([www.iiu-mpw.org](http://www.iiu-mpw.org)). Recently BMF was revised to meet current development and World Bank environmental and social standards. In view of this, IIU is disclosing the updated version of BMF for SECRAMP and RETRAP projects

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