

Press Release

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JICA and GOL inaugurates “The Master Plan Study on Urban Facilities Restoration and Improvement in Monrovia”

The Government of Liberia and the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) inaugurates *THE MASTER PLAN STUDY ON URBAN FACILITIES RESTORATION AND IMPROVEMENT IN MONROVIA*. The first steering committee takes place on Thursday, December 11, 2008 at 10:00am at the Ministry of Public Works to explain about the study based on the Inception Report to confirm the detail of the study and to kick it off.

The aim of this study is i) To formulate a Master Plan on Urban Facilities Restoration and Improvement in Greater Monrovia, as well as to formulate project implementation plans for **road, water supply, sewage, and storm water drainage**, and ii) To conduct technical transfer to the related organizations of Liberia regarding the formulation of a development plan through the execution of this Study. In order to achieve these, twenty (20) Japanese experts in total will undertake the study in Monrovia until October 2009 in collaboration with Ministry of Public Works, Ministry of Planning and Economic Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Transport, Ministry of Land, Mines and Energy, and Monrovia City Corporation, Liberia Water and Sewer Corporation.

The Topographic Mapping Team from Japan and Ghana has already conducted a part of the study since November with those Ministries, which is objected to produce the 1:10,000 Digital Topographic Map and Ortho-photo. The team will produce mapping data and Ortho-photo data by the end of March, 2009, and they will be utilized for formulation of this Master Plan.

JICA has re-started to have activity in Liberia since February, 2007. Up to now, JICA has conducted the rehabilitation of a part of building of “Liberian-Japanese Friendship Maternity Hospital at John F. Kennedy Hospital”, and dispatched Liberians to training program in Japan and the third countries to transfer the skills and knowledge of the development.

JICA is the governmental agency responsible for the Japanese bilateral assistance of technical cooperation, concessionary loans (Japanese ODA Loans), and grant aid programs. JICA Liberia Field office is going to open officially in January 2009 to enhance cooperation to Liberia.