

CSR Risk Check



LIBERIA

15 country risk(s) have been identified

- **HUMAN RIGHTS & ETHICS (8)**

GOVERNMENT INFLUENCE (5 RISKS)

This country is marked as a “high risk” country for political risks on the Aon political risk map. This is level 5 on a 1-to-6 scale. Please visit the [website](#) for more detailed information about this country.

Sources: [Aon, Political Risk Map, 2020](#)

According to The Africa Competitiveness Report, the most problematic risk factors for entrepreneurs in Liberia are access to financing, corruption, crime and theft, and inefficient government bureaucracy.

Sources: [World Economic Forum, The Africa Competitiveness Report, 2015](#)

Liberia is considered to be "partly free" according to the Freedom House Country List. This means that there is an oppressive regime, with regard to civil liberties.

Sources: [Freedom House, Freedom in the World, 2020](#)

In Liberia, impunity for human rights violations is a problem. Read more about this in the [Amnesty International](#) report.

Sources: [Amnesty International, Report 2017/2018 - The state of the World's Human Rights, 2018](#)

Liberia is ranked 98th out of 128 countries in the Rule of Law Index with a score of 0.45 on a scale from 0 (worst possible score) and 1 (best possible score). This means that this country performs poorly in the areas of corruption, openness of government and enforcement of regulations around rights, order, security, civil and criminal law.

Sources: [World Justice Project, Rule of Law Index, 2020](#)

LAND USE & PROPERTY RIGHTS (3 RISKS)

Due to the increasing demand in agricultural land in Sub-Saharan Africa, unsustainable farmland investments are increasingly common. Large-scale agricultural investments are often accompanied by displacement and dispossession.

Sources: [Schoneveld, G., Host country governance and the African land rush: 7 reasons why large-scale farmland investments fail to contribute to sustainable development, 2017](#)

The constitution states that only persons who are of “Negro descent” may become citizens and own land in Liberia. In this manner, the right of citizenship and property rights are being denied to many people of Lebanese and Asian descent, who were born or lived most of their lives in the country.

Sources: [US Department of State, Country Reports on Human Rights Practices for 2018, 2019](#)

In Liberia, the last few years have seen an increase in conflicts over land and violent protests against iron ore, palm oil and rubber corporations. Additionally, the rights of indigenous and local communities to their ancestral land are still not clearly defined, leaving them vulnerable to land being granted to corporations without local consent.

Sources: [SOMO, Liberia Back in Business?, 2015](#)

• **FAIR BUSINESS PRACTICES (3)**

CORRUPTION (2 RISKS)

According to the Corruption Perceptions Index, the corruption score of Liberia is 28, on a scale of 0 (highly corrupt) to 100 (very clean). This means that the risk of corruption in Liberia is very high.

Sources: [Transparency International, Corruption Perceptions Index 2019, 2020](#)

Corruption remains a serious problem in Liberia. Officials engaged in corrupt practices with impunity. Low pay for civil servants, minimal job training, and little judicial accountability exacerbated official corruption and a culture of impunity.

Sources: [US Department of State, Country Reports on Human Rights Practices for 2018, 2019](#)

TAXATION (1 RISK)

According to OECD, Liberia is only partially compliant with the international standard of transparency and exchange of information for tax purposes. The

Tax Justice Network has rated this jurisdiction as secretive. The financial secretive score of Liberia is 78 on a scale of 0 ("not secretive") to 100 ("exceptionally secretive"). This means that Liberia could be seen as a 'tax haven'.

Sources: [Tax Justice Network, Financial Secrecy Index, 2020](#), [OECD Global Forum on Transparency and Exchange of Information for Tax Purposes, Tax Transparency, 2020](#)

• **LABOUR RIGHTS (3)**

DISCRIMINATION & GENDER (2 RISKS)

Domestic and sexual violence against women is widespread in Liberia. Read more about this in the [Amnesty International](#) report.

Sources: [Amnesty International, Report 2017/2018 - The state of the World's Human Rights, 2018](#)

The constitution prohibits discrimination based on ethnic background, sex, creed, place of origin, disability, ethnic origin, or political opinion. However, there is a lack of effective government enforcement.

Domestic violence and sexual harassment (in schools and the workplace) is widespread. The same accounts for rape and other forms of sexual violence and harmful traditional practices against women and girls.

Consensual same-sex sexual relations are prohibited by law, and the Liberian culture is strongly opposed to homosexuality.

Sources: [US Department of State, Country Reports on Human Rights Practices for 2018, 2019](#)

CHILD LABOUR (1 RISK)

Child labour is common and occurs in almost every economic sector. Children help their parents as vendors in markets and tap rubber on smaller plantations and private farms. Children engage in activities that are likely to harm their health and safety, such as stone cutting or carrying heavy loads. Some children work in dangerous conditions in diamond mining and agriculture.

Sources: [US Department of State, Country Reports on Human Rights Practices for 2018, 2019](#)

• **ENVIRONMENT (1)**

BIODIVERSITY & DEFORESTATION (1 RISK)

Liberia is located within the Upper Guinean part of the Guinean Forest biodiversity hotspot, one of the most-threatened and least-protected forest ecosystems in the world. Liberia also lies within the Guinean moist forests global ecoregion. This is one of the Global 200 ecoregions that harbor

exceptional biodiversity and have been identified as global priority areas for conservation by the World Wide Fund for Nature.

Biodiversity in Liberia is under severe pressure from a variety of causes, including shifting agriculture, hunting, artisanal and commercial mining, commercial agriculture, and forestry.

Sources: [World Bank, A national biodiversity offset scheme: A road map for Liberia's mining sector, 2015](#)
