History of Partnership

The House Democracy Partnership (HDP)\(^1\) approved a legislative strengthening partnership with the Legislature of Liberia in July 2006. The partnership concentrates on the development of Liberian parliamentary staff structure, legislative library setup and operations, legislative drafting, stenography, records and archives, and legislative administration. HDP has encouraged development on these fronts through visits of U.S. Members of Congress and Congressional staff to Liberia, in addition to numerous training seminars for Liberian legislators and legislative staff. In 2009, HDP pledged $250,000 towards a project to develop a modern legislative library to better serve Liberian legislators and their staff.

HDP Engagement with the Legislature of Liberia

- **MP and Regional Seminars:** Members of the Legislature of Liberia have participated in over a dozen MP and regional seminars focused on issues related to transparency, ethics and citizen engagement, budget analysis and drafting, party and caucus dynamics, effective oversight, constituent communications, gender mainstreaming, and committee operations.

- **Staff Delegations and Technical Assistance Consultancies (TACs):** HDP organized staff delegation visits to Liberia, inviting U.S. congressional staff to discuss methods for legislative strengthening, including procedural issues, budget analysis, and parliamentary research services. Staffers have also participated in TACs focused on caucus development and agenda-setting.

- **Staff Seminars:** Staff of the Legislature of Liberia have participated in over a dozen seminars focused on topics ranging from library and research services, committee operations, and the budget review and oversight process.

HDP Congressional Delegations (CODELs)

- HDP has organized six U.S. Congressional delegation visits to Liberia.
  - May 2007
  - July 2008
  - July 2010
  - July 2012
  - June 2016
  - October 2019

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\(^1\) At the time the partnership was initiated, the House Democracy Partnership was known as the House Democracy Assistance Commission (HDAC). The name was subsequently changed to reflect the nature of HDP as a partnership with partner countries.