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UN Envoy visits UNMIL drainage cleaning projects in Monrovia

Monrovia, Liberia – The Special Representative of the Secretary-General, Mr. Alan Doss, together with the Acting Minister of Public Works, Mr. Loseni Donzo, today carried out site visits to the Soniwein concrete channel in Monrovia, which is currently being cleaned as part of the United Nations Mission in Liberia (UNMIL) Special Engineering projects in collaboration with the Ministry of Public Works.



UNMIL Special Engineering Projects provide employment for skilled and unskilled labourers

The delegation received a warm welcome by the residents of the Soniwein community, who thanked them for this initiative.

Special Representative Doss recognized the hard work being done and noted “these efforts demonstrate how much we can achieve at a modest cost.” He encouraged the workers to complete the clean up programme and also urged the community dwellers to contribute to this project by keeping their environment clean.

The Special Engineering projects were established to support the peace building and government’s efforts to create employment opportunities for young people. UNMIL has allocated \$1 million for the rehabilitation of critical road corridors in Liberia, as well as the cleaning of the drainage and streets in Monrovia, using labour intensive methods. This initiative, which was launched earlier this year, contributes to the Liberia Emergency Employment Programme/Liberia Employment Action Programme (LEEP/LEAP), which is the government’s employment-creation framework.

The drainage cleaning of Monrovia streets and channels was proposed by the Ministry of Public Works to reduce flooding and deterioration of wearing surface, facilitating the movement of traffic and reducing accidents. The open channels that were identified by the Ministry for cleaning are approximately 6,120 meters long. A total of 204 skilled and unskilled labourers will be employed for the duration of three months to clean clogged drains in Monrovia.

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