



# An Assessment on Agricultural Technologies in Liberia, Africa

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## Introduction

UMD has partnered with ROOTS Africa, an organization that connects students across the world to combat poverty through farming, and the Liberian International Christian College, LICC, to coordinate new projects each semester that help improve agricultural techniques in Liberia, Africa. This semester, I was fortunate enough to collaborate with LICC students to assess their past projects and their implementation of them.

## Activities:

We had weekly zoom meetings with my professor and fellow UMD classmates and the LICC students and their professor. We originally were caught up on previous projects that have helped LICC improve their farming techniques and used those to collaborate and brainstorm ideas on how to better improve their processes. My group, which consisted of myself and 3 UMD students and 6 LICC students decided to create an assessment on the impact of the extension agriculture programs thus far, through an analyzation of the successes of the compost program, farmer outreach program, radio program, and high school outreach program.



## Impact:

By assessing the impact of the previous year's projects and programs that are set in place currently, we were able to come up with new amendments and solutions to all the problems that have been encountered in these agricultural programs.

Because we were unable to meet in person, this photo displays my entire AREC360 class. Our class is made up of 12 students, 1 TA, and 1 professor. Because this course is a part of "global classrooms" not all of my classmates attend UMD! This made for even more diverse conversations and better collaboration.



This photo displays my individual group of UMD and LICC students. Pictured on the UMD end is myself, Hanna, Meron, and Rachel. On the LICC side is Peter, Andy, Plenseh, Edwin, Joseph, and Jerry. This is the group that was assigned to collaborate with us on creating our impact assessment for their farming programs.

## Site Information:

**Course:** AREC360: Global Agriculture: Developing Extension Education & Agriculture Technologies in Africa

**Supervisor (Professor):** Taryn Devereux - taryndev@umd.edu

**Mission and Goals:** Our main goal of this course is to create a new program that can improve the agricultural techniques that are in place at LICC in Liberia.

## Issues Confronting Site:

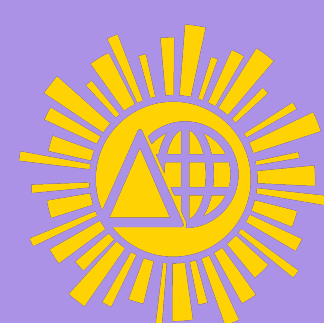
Because Liberia's economy and their citizen's livelihoods revolve around agriculture, the main issue we confronted was how to assist the LICC students and their communities in assisting them by updating their agricultural techniques, providing them the resources to do so, and assessing the programs already in place to ensure they are succeeding and helping LICC as much as possible.

## Future Work:

In the future, more UMD students will work with LICC to improve their agriculture businesses even more. It is my hope that LICC is able to carry out our impact assessment with their own farms and programs, and other businesses in the area, and can make changes and improvements to their farms as needed. I hope that my project is able to positively impact the LICC community and surrounding regions for many years after it is complete.

## Acknowledgments:

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