



Liberia

Delivery of high-quality oxygen therapy has long been a challenge in Liberia, with access to oxygen impeded by gaps that span the health system. These issues have been further amplified by the COVID-19 pandemic.

As of 2020, the Liberia Ministry of Health, with support from Clinton Health Access Initiative (CHAI) and other partners, carried out multiple initiatives to improve reliable supply of oxygen, including:

ASSESSMENT

- + Conducted a **nationwide assessment** in 53 facilities to better understand the capacity of health facilities to deliver oxygen therapy:
 - » The assessment revealed significant gaps in availability of oxygen equipment and supplies as well as inadequate human resources for health, indicating an urgent need to implement solutions to increase access to medical oxygen.



COORDINATION & STRATEGIC PLANNING

- + Established an **Oxygen Technical Working Group** to share knowledge and coordinate efforts.
- + Developed a **National Roadmap to Increase Access to Medical Oxygen in Liberia**, which outlines prioritized and costed interventions to increase access to medical oxygen and is intended to support the Ministry of Health and partners to coordinate implementation and resource mobilization.
- + Currently developing a **national medical oxygen policy and national clinical management guidelines for hypoxemia and oxygen therapy**.



EQUIPMENT PROCUREMENT & REPAIR & CAPACITY-BUILDING

- + Conducted a **national oxygen demand quantification and gap analysis** to inform resource allocation for oxygen.
- + With support from Unitaid and CHAI, **procured**:

18	100	458	280	226	100	5,400
oxygen	oxygen	pulse	patient	cylinders	resuscitators	oxygen
analyzers	concentrators	oximeters	monitors	with		delivery
				accessories		consumables
- + Developed an emergency national in-service oxygen training package to improve oxygen care during the pandemic, which has been used to train **144 clinicians working across 43 COVID-19 treatment facilities**.
- + Conducted refresher trainings—with ongoing routine mentoring—for all **19 county biomedical engineering technicians** on maintenance and repair of oxygen analyzers, concentrators, cylinders, and pulse oximeters.



With increased availability of oxygen equipment and more trained health workers, health facilities across the country are better prepared to deliver oxygen as a lifesaving treatment.