

## THE ROOT CAUSES OF MIGRANT'S ATTRACTION TO DEVELOPING COUNTRIES: A CASE STUDY OF LIBERIA-WEST AFRICA

M.A. THESIS

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Nicosia

June, 2022

2022

## NEAR EAST UNIVERSITY INSTITUTE OF GRADUATE STUDIES

#### DEPARTMENT OF INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

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## Approval

We certify that we have read the thesis submitted by Pekeleh Gbuapaye titled "The Root Causes of Migrant's Attraction to Developing Countries: A Case Study of Liberia-West Africa" and that in our combined opinion it is fully adequate, in scope and quality, as a thesis for the degree of Master of International Relations.

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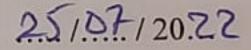
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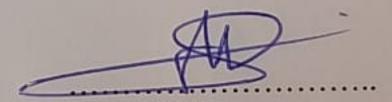
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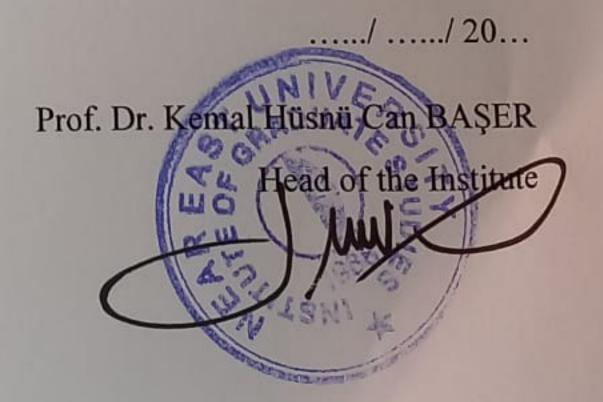
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# Declaration

I hereby declare that all information, documents, analysis and results in this thesis have been collected and presented according to the academic rules and ethical guidelines of Institute of Graduate Studies, Near East University. I also declare that as required by these rules and conduct, I have fully cited and referenced information and data that are not original to this study.

Pekeleh Gbuapaye

25/91/22

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# Acknowledgements

I want to acknowledge the help and guidance of our omnipotent Lord in completing this task. It's been a long road, but it's been worth it in terms of growth and development. To my Advisor and Chairperson of the Department of International Relations of the Near East University, Assoc. Prof. Dr. Sait Akşit, thanks very much for your mentorial advice and encouraging support. It was a pleasure meeting you, Dr. Nur Koprulu, the Vice Dean of the Faculty of Economics and Administrative Sciences at the Near East University, a recognized International Relations Scholar and reservoir of knowledge in Middle East Politics. We should give Jefferson T. Koijee, my boss and mentor, a standing ovation for this outstanding accomplishment, he rightly merits recognition for his long-term focus on human resources. There is no stopping the Monrovia City Government's efforts to make credentials trendy, resulting in the Institution's quick expansion and change. Our gratitude goes out to the MCC, which has given us the chance to embark on this rewarding adventure. I do not doubt that Mr. Tomah Seh Floyd will continue to prove that he is a good father for the rest of his life, thank you dad for your unhesitant support. Thank you very much for all you do for me, Uncle Cornelius Martor, whose generosity is unrivaled. Thanks for the motherly care, Mama Juli Endee. I adore you. I appreciate your willingness to go the additional mile for the people you call your brothers, even if it means going over and beyond the call of duty for yourself Mohommed Bamba. Please accept my gratitude flatmate and study companion, sister Catherine Kuku Dolo. It is with great gratitude that I owe all of you, Mothers Lorena Gbuapaye, Koo Korkpor, as well as the rest of my family and friends including loved ones, for all of your love and support. Definitively, I'm dedicating this achievement to my late father whom we've always drawn inspiration from, even if we failed many times. Dad, even though you're no longer with us, your influence and the positive ideals you instilled in us live on.

Pekeleh Gbuapaye



#### Abstract

## The Root Causes of Migrant's Attraction To Developing Countries: A Case Study of Liberia-West Africa

## Pekeleh Gbuapaye Supervisor: Assoc. Prof. Dr. Sait Akşit MA, Department of International Relations June, 2022, 87 pages

Migration as a transnational security trend is evolving with an outright dynamic. It is estimated that 281 million individuals left their countries of origin in 2020 for a variety of reasons, including economics, politics, society, and the environment. The International Organization for Migration provided this estimate in its 2020 study. This number is expected to upsurge. Many studies on migration have shown that developed countries are the most attractive to migrants because they provide greater options for migrants to work and send remittances back to their families. Despite this, migration to developing nations is not a topic of interest to many scholars, even though developing countries provide greater prospects for migrants, particularly labor and professional migrants. This has even made researching migrating to developing countries a new trend of global migration challenging. As a Liberian, I opted to write my thesis on the factors that influence migration to developing nations, with Liberia serving as a case study to illustrate the importance of the factors. Much to my surprise, I found that this study would not only add to already existing studies on migration, particularly in Liberia but would also serve as a valuable reference for researchers in the future. One typical example of the current trend of migration, Liberia in West Africa, has several reasons to be of interest. Over 5 million people call Liberia home, a nation in West Africa. A 14-year civil conflict required the country's narrative, which concluded in 2003. A peace deal is known as "The Accra Peace Accord" was reached by Liberia and the international community in 2003, which ended the war and marked a turning point for Liberians and the State's overall growth. All of the UN's peacebuilding initiatives, including the reform of governance, security sector reform, refugee and repatriation assistance, civil society empowerment, postconflict elections, and protection of human rights, had their start in Liberia. The

country is now on a trajectory of development. However, notwithstanding these improvements, the paucity of human resources is still a primary draw for migrants. Professional migrants who fled Liberia during the country's civil war have settled in their new countries and many aren't thinking about returning to help restore their homeland. As a result of this opening, a growing number of people are migrating to Liberia in search of better prospects. The country's underdeveloped education system, which requires reform and progress, business opportunities, natural resources, agriculture investments, as well as new initiatives, and the need for expert support, are further reasons why individuals migrate to Liberia. With these exciting opportunities to improve their personal lives while also having an impact on the progress of the country via their professional ability, migrants are pursuing these opportunities. Liberia's 2020 migrant statistics, compiled by the Liberia Institute of Statistics and Geo-Information Services (LISGIS), indicated a total of 71,917 labor migrants who entered the country between 2003 and 2020, with more predicted. I have used the LISGIS data and other important migration research to derive a comprehensive finding. To better understand why migrants choose to migrate to impoverished nations, namely Liberia, the conclusions of this study are evident. A qualitative method of research specifically focusing on secondary data collections was utilized to devise a more comprehensive, and enviable finding.

*Keywords:* Migration, Developing Countries, Liberia, Africa, Development, Labor Migration

## Gelişmekte Olan Ülkelere Göçmen Çekiminin Temel Nedenleri: Liberya-Batı Afrika Bir Vaka Çalışması

Pekeleh Gbuapaye Danışman: Doç. Dr. Sait Akşit Yüksek Lisans, Uluslararası İlişkiler Bölümü Haziran, 2022, 87 sayfa

Ulusötesi bir güvenlik eğilimi olarak göç, tam bir dinamikle gelişiyor. 2020'de 281 milyon kişinin ekonomi, siyaset, toplum ve çevre gibi çeşitli nedenlerle menşe ülkelerini terk ettiği tahmin ediliyor. Uluslararası Göç Örgütü, 2020 çalışmasında bu tahmini sağladı. Bu sayının artması bekleniyor. Göç üzerine yapılan birçok araştırma, göçmenlerin çalışması ve ailelerine işçi dövizi göndermeleri için daha fazla seçenek sağladıkları için gelişmiş ülkelerin göçmenler için en çekici ülkeler olduğunu göstermiştir. Buna rağmen, gelişmekte olan ülkeler göçmenler, özellikle işçi ve profesyonel göçmenler için daha büyük beklentiler sağlasa da, gelişmekte olan ülkelere göç pek çok bilim insanının ilgilendiği bir konu değildir. Bu, gelişmekte olan ülkelere göç etmeyi araştırmayı yeni bir küresel göç trendi haline getirdi. Bir Liberyalı olarak, tezimi gelişmekte olan ülkelere göçü etkileyen faktörler üzerine yazmayı seçtim ve Liberya, faktörlerin önemini göstermek için bir vaka çalışması olarak hizmet ediyor. Şaşırtıcı bir şekilde, bu çalışmanın özellikle Liberya'da göç üzerine halihazırda mevcut olan çalışmalara katkıda bulunacağını değil, aynı zamanda gelecekte araştırmacılar için değerli bir referans olarak hizmet edeceğini keşfettim. Mevcut göç eğiliminin tipik bir örneği olan Batı Afrika'daki Liberya'nın ilgi çekici olması için birkaç nedeni vardır. 5 milyondan fazla insan, Batı Afrika'da bir ulus olan Liberya'yı evi olarak görüyor. 14 yıllık bir iç çatışma, ülkenin 2003 yılında sonuçlanan anlatısını gerektiriyordu. 2003 yılında Liberya ve uluslararası toplum tarafından "Akra Barış Anlaşması" olarak bilinen bir barış anlaşmasına varıldı.Bu, Liberyalılar için savaşı sona erdiren, Liberya'nın ekonomik büyümesi ve kalkınması açısından bir dönüm noktası oldu. BM'nin yönetişim reformu, güvenlik sektörü reformu, mülteci ve ülkesine geri dönüş yardımı, sivil toplumun güçlendirilmesi, çatışma sonrası seçimler

#### Özet

ve insan haklarının korunması dahil olmak üzere barış inşası girişimlerinin tümü Liberya'da başladı. Ülke şu anda bir kalkınma yörüngesinde. Bununla birlikte, bu gelişmelere rağmen, insan kaynaklarının kıtlığı, göçmenler için hala birincil çekiciliktir. Ülkenin iç savaşı sırasında Liberya'dan kaçan profesyonel göçmenler yeni ülkelerine yerleştiler ve pek çoğu anavatanlarını restore etmeye yardım etmek için geri dönmeyi düşünmüyor. Bu açılışın bir sonucu olarak, giderek artan sayıda insan daha iyi umutlar aramak için Liberya'ya göç ediyor. Ülkenin reform ve ilerleme gerektiren az gelişmiş eğitim sistemi, iş fırsatları, doğal kaynaklar, tarım yatırımları ve yeni girişimler ve uzman desteğine duyulan ihtiyaç, bireylerin Liberya'ya göç etmesinin diğer nedenleridir. Kişisel yaşamlarını iyileştirmek için bu heyecan verici fırsatlarla birlikte, mesleki yetenekleriyle ülkenin ilerlemesine de etki eden göçmenler, bu fırsatların peşinden koşuyor. Liberya İstatistik ve Jeo-Bilgi Hizmetleri Enstitüsü (LISGIS) tarafından derlenen Liberya'nın 2020 göçmen istatistikleri 2003 ve 2020 yılları arasında tahminen ülkeye gelen toplam işçi göçme sayısını 71.917 olarak gösterdi. Kapsamlı bir bulgu elde etmek için LISGIS verilerini ve diğer önemli göç araştırmalarını kullandım. Göçmenlerin neden yoksul ülkelere, yani Liberya'ya göç etmeyi seçtiklerini daha iyi anlamak için bu çalışmanın sonuçları açıktır. Daha kapsamlı ve imrenilecek bir bulgu elde etmek için özellikle ikincil veri toplamaya odaklanan nitel bir araştırma yöntemi kullanıldı.

Anahar Kelimeler: Göç, Gelişmekte Olan Ülkeler, Liberya, Afrika, Kalkınma, İşçi Göçmenler

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## List of Abbreviations

ACS:	American Colonization Society
AU:	African Union
COVID-19:	Coronavirus
CBL:	Central Bank Of Liberia
EU:	European Union
ECOWAS:	Economic Community Of West African States
FDI:	Foreign Direct Investment
GDP:	Gross Domestic Product
HDI:	Human Development Index
IOM:	International Organization For Migration
ICT:	Information And Communication Technology
IMF:	International Monetary Fund
LISGIS:	Liberia Institute Of Statistics And Geo-
	Information Services
LIS:	Liberia Immigration Services
LDM:	Liberian Democracy Movement
MTEF:	Medium-Term Expenditure Framework
NDPL:	National Democratic Party Of Liberia
NEC:	National Elections Commission
OECD:	Organization For Economic Cooperation And
	Development
R2P:	Responsibility To Protect
STEM:	Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics
US:	United States
UN:	United Nations

## CHAPTER I Introduction

#### Background

This thesis rethinks migration scholarship by shifting the global perspective on migration from using developing states as origin countries to destinations with the belief that developing states have a very rich literature on migrant attraction in the 21st century, in which the world is evolving with the advancement of countries. Because of the lack of available local human resources, developing countries will always need the assistance of labour migrants with various expertise to further their economic development. Even in Liberia, the country that has been used as an example in this research, this occurred. There is an immediate and critical need in Liberia to improve all aspects of society that were severely impacted by the civil conflict. This research analyzes the pull factor of migration and how it has been acknowledged globally as a factor that is reforming the dynamics of global migration. The change in population growth has been identified as a factor that is reforming the dynamics of global migration. Individuals are being forced to seek out new possibilities as a result of the rising disparity across locations (Bozorgmehr, Roberts, Razum & Biddle, 2020). The reasons why people migrate are growing more complex for a variety of reasons, which is altering the viewpoints of those who migrate. In light of current developments, educated migrants look for work in developing countries, where there is a significant demand for their specific expertise (Cetrez, Shakra, Wirman & Szalanska, 2018). According to an estimate that was published by the International Organization for Migration (IOM), there are now more than 281 million migrants living in countries other than where they were born. A growing population, an increase in the connectivity of global markets, reformed dynamics of commerce and trade, growing inequality between the people of wealthy and utterly poor countries, demographic imbalance of regions, and factors related to climate change are some of the major contributing factors that are underpinning migration (Greene Sr, 2015). According to organizations that are responsible for migration governance, such as the International Organizations for Migration (IOM), the International System is expecting to see an exponential rise in the numbers of migrants who intend to migrate to new lands in the coming years with the hopes of finding better ways to support themselves economically. The migrants are always looking for new opportunities and advantages that will make their

lives easier, such as the establishment of new host communities as alternatives (Hakizimana, 2021). Migration is a challenging process that requires migrants to evaluate the social infrastructures and cope with the challenges of facing the local population, as well as the challenges of facing language barriers, and desperately embrace the expected human insecurity challenges they are confronted with while they are on the move. Those concerned in migration governance continue to find the discussion over migration to be of interest since migration is a delicate transnational security problem involving nations and international institutions (Larik & Sahoo, 2018). The International Community places a significant amount of weight on the role that migrants play in paying particular attention to the difficulties that are involved with migration.

This issue is relevant for examining the element of migration, which is a worldwide phenomenon that cannot be diminished without additional debate in addressing the core reasons for it, even though migration does have its positive component, which is what makes it complicated. Leaders in the international arena, particularly the architects of foreign policy for great powers and international organizations, have aligned and developed a holistic multilateral framework to evaluate the significant factors that drive migration and, as a subsequent step, evaluate the perspectives for assessing sustainability (Manfredi-Sánchez, 2020). The effectiveness of the migration debate at international conferences aims to assess the perspectives for developing a sustainable framework to handle the challenges of migration and examine the factors that are resulting in an increased amount of migration. Specifically, the effectiveness of the migration debate at international conferences aims to assess the perspectives for developing a sustainable framework to handle the challenges of migration. When addressing migration within the context of the International System, it is necessary to consider some factors, including armed conflicts, natural catastrophes, and the effects of climate change (Micinski & Weiss, 2017). Migrants are encouraged to leave their country of origin and go to a nation-state of their destination for several reasons, one of which is the possibility that they would be subjected to political violence or intimidation in the state where they now reside. The Republic of Liberia is an attractive destination for migrants because of its abundance of natural resources, fertile land, ideal climate, and economic circumstances, as well as its desperate desire for human resources (Molnar, 2011). The

provision of a wide variety of chances for migrants to move is one of the reasons why developing nations like Liberia are appealing to migrants. The Department of Social and Economic Affairs of the United Nations in the year 2020 presented a summary of the fact that the world will see an influx of migrants from developed countries to developing states in search of new opportunities. These migrants will be moving in the opposite direction of traditional migration patterns. To identify whether or not this kind of migration is sustainable, its underlying reasons may be identified using a holistic perspective (Mvukiyehe & Samii, 2010). Migration is mostly caused by global economic inequality, which is one of the key driving factors. Theoretical discoveries have been created to examine the migration practices of advanced economic states to periphery states to stabilize the rising requirement for qualified resources in such territories (Nair, Bhadra & Sahni, 2019). Because it offers development and employment for competent individuals who are looking for chances that are both desirable and challenging, Liberia is a place that is appealing to a large number of migrants.

The goal of this research is to determine the variables that motivate migrants to come to Liberia. Liberia is a nation on Africa's western coast. It was founded by the American Colonization Society as a project to repatriate African-Americans who had been slaves in the US during the trans-Atlantic slavery era to their homeland, Africa, as a means of restoring their basic freedom. Liberia, which was established in 1822, was the first colony to settle these formerly enslaved people who had been returned to Africa (Bozorgmehr, Roberts, Razum & Biddle, 2020). The state has gone through some trying periods, the most recent of which is a civil war that lasted for a total of 14 years, from 1989 up to 2003. During the war, the state descended into a war-torn civilization, being cut off from the rest of the world and sustaining extensive damage to its infrastructure. The United Nations(UN), the African Union (AU), the US, and other influential diplomatic actors intervened to return Liberia to normalcy in 2003 under the principle of the Responsibility to Protect (R2P), which followed a unanimous vote of the United Nations Security Council in its adopted resolution 1509. They also initiated a peace dialogue and signed a comprehensive peace agreement in Accra at that time, which is referred to as the Accra Comprehensive Peace Agreement (Pailey, 2018). This was signed amongst significant actors in the violent conflict that resulted in the deaths of around 250,000 civilians who had done nothing wrong. The accord paved the way for a peacebuilding process that was started so that the state should return to its regular status. Following the conclusion of hostilities in 2005, the state held its first general and presidential elections. There were observers present from other countries (Palattiyil, Sidhva, Seraphia Derr & Macgowan, 2021). The election was a huge success, and as a result, trust in the state's leadership increased significantly on a global scale.

Formerly known as a failed state, Liberia is on the path to recovery and is presently attracting a big number of migrants. These migrants are drawn to the nation because of its abundant resources, lush soils, and promising business opportunities (Cetrez, Shakra, Wirman & Szalanska, 2018). The rate of migration to Liberia has been seen to be accelerating lately, a phenomenon that is being investigated in this study. The state went through several evolutionary processes that were intertwined with one another, one of which included considerable governance adjustments (Spilkin, 2011). As a direct result of increased levels of competition, migrants are looking into a variety of resource options. These include making use of the state's abundant soil by engaging in agriculture, investing in businesses and expanding the private sector, and capitalizing on human resource qualities that are undervalued in their respective home countries.

The statistical information in the research is evaluated to analyze Liberia's migration analytics. The migrants are drawn to Liberia in pursuit of greater opportunities to enrich their life. This makes Liberia an attractive destination for migrants. The examination of these elements is essential because it requires a dynamic knowledge of the state and finds characteristics that stimulate migration to Liberia. This is why the evaluation of these aspects is crucial (Thompson, 2013). Liberia is a growing state actor that is attracting migrants to the practical opportunities given by the country's natural resources, fertile terrain for agriculture, and appealing economic climate. These factors combine to make Liberia an attractive destination for potential new residents. The objective of the plan is for them to earn more money, which they would then remit to their home nations to provide for their families (Urey, 2018).

#### **Statement of the Problem**

According to the Liberia Institute of Statistics and Geo-Information Services (LISGIS), 71,917 Labour migrants, largely from North American countries including the United States as well as the European Union, China, and other African nations, migrated to Liberia between 2003 and 2020. Liberia's education, health care, and other vital sectors all need workers like them. Graphic and textual summaries of the factors that drive migrants to Liberia are provided in Chapter 2. From 2003 until the present, the study examines Liberia's post-civil war era. Professional Migrants trooping to Liberia is the problem associated with this study, which aims to discover what drives them. An important goal of this study is to have a better understanding of how Liberia's rapid expansion affects the perceptions of migrant workers. People from richer countries are increasingly interested in migrating to countries like Liberia in search of economic opportunities, even though Liberia is a developing nation in the most impoverished region of Africa. The lack of migration research on Liberia led me to believe that the nation had no history of migration, which sparked my interest in writing about my own experience moving to Liberia from another country. If researchers in Liberia want the rest of the world to start thinking about migration from a Liberian perspective, they need to do more research. Additionally, this study will serve as a guide for future researchers who may be interested in writing about migration from a developing-state perspective, as well as contributing to the present literature on migration.

This study focuses on Liberia since it has become such a popular destination for migrants as a waypoint for worldwide migration patterns. The findings of this study add to our knowledge of what draws individuals from across the world to Liberia as a destination for international migration. Those that migrate do so to better their living conditions and financial security in a new location. People from all over the world are contemplating moving to Liberia because of the fresh chances it offers, as well as the advantages of living in their nations. This is a positive evaluation since Liberia's economy is critical in determining the breadth of migration (De Haas, 2012). It is possible to create enterprises in Liberia because of the country's free and open economic qualities, which allow for resource discovery, agricultural development, and commercial opportunities.

#### **Purpose of the Study**

The goal of the research is to determine the root causes of migrants' attraction to developing countries. The assessment has been done by analyzing the situation of Liberia, West Africa, and its economic, social, and political factors. The recent development of the economy is becoming a major factor that the migrants are surging into Liberia. Liberia is a vital country in West Africa that has allowed individuals to engage with social growth, economic growth, and integrated value. This study examined the growth patterns of worldwide migration, with a particular emphasis on the reasons Liberia has become a popular destination for migrants.

#### Significance of the Study

We must have a better understanding of what motivates people to migrate to developing countries, particularly Liberia. Migrations are on the rise, with individuals moving between developed and poor nations from all over the world. Many people go to Liberia in pursuit of better economic opportunities in West Africa. To gain a better earning opportunity and to improve one's family's standard of living are the main reasons for migration. Migration is a way for people to improve their economic condition and use their resources more efficiently. Migration from countries with low and moderate incomes is driven by the need to better one's social status while also ensuring one's financial security (Brücker, Docquier, and Rapoport, 2012). In the past, research has revealed that migrants tended to come from lower and middle-income countries, but that has changed over time. Migrants from high-income nations are increasingly looking for economic opportunities in low-income ones (Kapiszewski, 2017). Economic and educational possibilities in higher-income nations often attract huge numbers of people from lower-income countries like Asia and other regions of the globe. The percentage of the world's population that resides in countries other than their own is rising at a startlingly quick pace. Rapid technology breakthroughs are altering the nature of the workplace. Liberia's progress throughout time indicates how global trends and people's preferences are altering and diminishing the borders (Czaika & De Haas, 2014). As a result of technological progress, the world has become more connected, opening up new career prospects and streamlining communication. Maintaining communication and using the most up-to-date materials are both made possible thanks to this. Migrants' ability to stay in touch with their families is greatly enhanced by the use of modern technologies. Migrants prioritize remitting money to

loved ones and keeping track of family members in other countries. Resources that provide value to the system are becoming more scarce in the global marketplace (Ajide & Raheem, 2016). Money sent back to loved ones in their home countries by Liberian migrants helps boost the economies and infrastructure of the nations they left behind. Future researchers may utilize the study's results to better understand why people migrate to Liberia, a nation that is still developing. A better understanding of the role migrants play in Liberia's socioeconomic and political growth should help the government devise measures to protect them.

#### The Objective of the Study

Liberian migration is on the rise, and this study's goal is to find out what is behind this trend. Liberia is a country that has a lot to offer, including a wide variety of resources. Farmers and companies alike are making large investments in the country's agricultural sector, in addition to the country's economic climate and environment. Diamonds and timber are readily available in Liberia, a country that seems to be heading in the direction of increased economic development. Migrants are drawn to Liberia because of the country's fertile land and pleasant environment. Migration to poor nations like Liberia and West Africa is the focus of this research.

#### **Research Questions**

The research questions established through this research are the following:

- What are the variables that attract migrants to Liberia, West Africa?
- To what extent would an increasing number of migrant workers, particularly skilled ones, help Liberia?

#### Scope and Limitation of the Study

A number of the study's flaws contribute to the underlying reasons for migration. Migrants' reasons for moving to poor nations and looking for opportunities there. For this objective, the example of Liberia has been chosen, which demonstrates Liberia's prominence in Africa. Liberia is a growing nation that is dealing with several economic difficulties. The authorities have developed policies to help the state shift from its periphery and prosper with the help of established nations and international organizations. The study's limitations include that it can only look at the causes luring individuals to Liberia in the first place. To evaluate the Liberian case study from an analytical standpoint, the economic issues will be examined. Truth be told, it's difficult to write about Liberia since so little research has been done there, especially on migration. Researching migration to poor nations in particular Liberia attracted me more because of the lack of data on the subject, which the researcher believes would be of great use to anyone interested in either reading or writing about migration to developing countries. The researcher contacted numerous government agencies that collect statistics on Liberia's migration patterns. The researcher's goal was to compare data from inside the country with that given by outside agencies, but this proved to be a difficult task. Some government agencies dealing with migration, like the Immigration Services and the Liberia Institute of Statistics and Geo-Information Services, were sluggish to reply due to procedural requirements. Time had a crucial effect. For example, the Liberia Immigration Service, an official government agency tasked with keeping track of all foreign nationals /migrants who enter the country, was unable to provide me with the information the researcher requested, but the Director of Migration referred me to the government's primary source for statistical and geospatial data, the Liberia Institute for Statistic and Geo-information, it was a very long and hectic process. The researcher also tried contacting the Ministry of Labor to learn how many foreign employees are now employed in the country, but the researcher received no response. After weeks of uncertainty, The researcher eventually got an email from LISGIS supplying the 2020 migration statistics as a guarantee for the facts in my thesis. This was a serious situation, and for days on end, the researcher was certain that obtaining a required report from my nation would be impossible. Besides, the Grand Library at my university is a great place to find relevant information for research purposes, but the researcher noticed that many of the previous migration studies were focused on migrating to core states rather than poor countries, which made it difficult to gather the information needed for this thesis. However, the researcher was able to succeed with the research. Because of these constraints, the researcher became energized by the realization that a study on the reasons that pull migration to underdeveloped countries should be done and released online as well as placed in the Near East Grand library as a reference for future researchers.

#### Methodology of the Study

Qualitative data was utilized to build the study technique. To better understand why migrants are drawn to Liberia, the necessary data was collected and evaluated. Additionally, secondary data were used to investigate the problem, and information was gathered. This enables the study's findings to be compiled. The findings of the study were based on research gathered from academic publications, which allowed for the optimal deployment of the resource. The Near East University Grand Library was used by me for research reasons. Liberia's postwar era, from 2003 to the present, is the center of the study. Liberia Institute of Statistics and Geo-Information Services migration data for 2020 has been visually and statistically evaluated for the study's desired conclusion.

#### **Organization of the Study**

The study's structure includes the following chapters, which include the study's material and results. The following chapters are used to organize the research: Background and approach are covered in chapter one. A review of relevant theories and ideas, as well as a conceptual and theoretical framework, are included in chapter two. The Historical background of Liberia as well as actors who played influential roles in its establishment is the subject of chapter three. The Factors that drive the migration of migrants to Liberia which is the meat of the study are discussed in chapter four, and the conclusion and recommendations are covered in chapter five.

#### CHAPTER II

#### **Conceptual And Theoretical Framework**

This chapter offers a summary of the most important ideas, as well as a literature review that offers a comprehensive examination of the significant studies and contributions that have been produced throughout the last 10 to fifteen years. The conceptual framework of this research contained concepts such as migration as well as others that are essential to the argument being made.

Migration is defined as the process of individuals relocating from one location to another for a variety of different causes, as stated by Arrango and Baldwin-Eward (2014). Issues relating to job and security, as well as sociopolitical and even environmental concerns, are among the causes. Depending on the specifics of the situation, this migration procedure might either be a temporary one or a more permanent one. The major focus of this investigation is on determining the reasons for the recent surge in the number of persons moving to Liberia. The West African nation of Liberia has a poor per capita GDP and relies substantially on help from other countries. The poor state of its economy may be attributed to a wide variety of occurrences that took place in the region's history. The country's history of internal conflict is one of the primary reasons for this situation (Haugen, 2012). Mismanagement and a lack of seriousness on the part of the government are what led to the war and the subsequent decline of the economy. The focus of governmental leaders was more on acquiring money obtained dishonestly than it was on directing their efforts toward the general betterment of the country as a whole. These domestic concerns, with a particular emphasis on the conflict, led to the migration of investment institutions, which were afterward established in other nations where the economic and other circumstances were better. This shift is usually detrimental to states as well as the economy of those states (Bertoli & Moraga, 2013). It did not only result in the relocation of investments, but it also undercuts financial resources and professional knowledge. In addition to these well-known aspects of Liberia, one of the essential aspects is that the country is still seeing an increase in the number of people migrating there, even though it is a developing nation that is plagued by high levels of economic instability and other problems (Bettini, 2013). One of the reasons that many analysts point to the country's flexible migration policy among some other criteria is because

of the country's large population. Which, the most important aspects are economic growth, natural resources, employment possibilities, agricultural land, and so on. People living in its bordering states and nations as well as those residing in other states benefit from these considerations (Johnson, 2013). With a total population of 5.608 million people, Liberia is a country that can be found on the western coast of Africa. It is bordered to the north by Sierra Leone, to the east by Côte d'Ivoire, and to the south by Guinea; to the south is the Atlantic Ocean. In terms of its physical characteristics, Liberia has a total of 579 kilometers of coastline and 111,370 square kilometers of land (King, 2015). In all, there are 15 different political subdivisions, and while English is the country's official language, there are 16 other local languages spoken there. Around 85.6 percent of the population identifies as Christian, making up the majority. The second most common form of religious observance in the world is Islam, which is followed by 12.2 percent of the population. According to the census taken in 2008, which was the most recent census that was ever conducted (Günter & Launov, 2012), the remaining 0.6% and 1.4% of the population adhered to traditional and nonreligious beliefs, respectively. One of the things that draw people to Liberia is the country's rich supply of natural resources; thus, it has a sizeable population. Iron ore, gold, diamonds, wood, and rubber are just a few of the important natural resources and minerals that are found here. The history of Liberia is packed with important events that have contributed to the nation's complex past. It was the first Black country in Africa to proclaim independence from the American colonial system when Liberia did so in 1847 when it issued its declaration of independence (King, 2012). The institution was founded as a direct consequence of the internal politics of slavery and race in the United States as well as its interests. In the year 1862, the United States and Liberia first established their diplomatic ties, which continued till the 1990s. In 1980, after years of instability, Liberia had a military coup. Samuel Doe was the one in charge of it. This carried on for ten whole years. Charles Taylor's rebellion against Samuel Doe in December 1989 was the spark that ignited the country's first civil war (Kattel & Sapkota, 2018). Samuel Doe was one of the casualties of this civil war, which also led to the breakdown of the institution. The aftermath of this disaster will have significant repercussions. In 1997, Charles Taylor was able to seize power, although his reign was short-lived. Again, Liberia saw turmoil in the year 2000, which ultimately led to Charles Taylor's resignation in the year 2003 (Kerr, Kerr, Ozden, and Parsons, 2016). There have been two separate civil wars in Liberia. The most recent one began in 1989

and continued until 2003, making it a total of 14 years in length. The civil war in Liberia caused the country to become estranged from the community of nations. According to Artuc, Docquier, Ozden, and Parsons (2015), the aftermath of this not only wreaked havoc on the physical infrastructure but also brought the economy to its knees. Beginning in 2003 and continuing forward, several international organizations and powerful governments, such as the United Nations (UN), an institutional institution responsible to launch peacebuilding interventions in a war-torn society, the African Union (AU), the European Union (EU), and the United States (US), assisted Liberia in its efforts to build peace across the country. In 2005, Liberia held its first general elections as well as elections for president for the first time. Beginning in 2005 and continuing to the present day, Liberia has been subjected to a multitude of constructive transformation processes, all of which have shown themselves to be successful for the people of Liberia and other populations (Van Hear, Bakewell & Long, 2018). The status of Liberia has been upgraded, and the nation is now making progress toward its goals. It is a process that is thought to be both transformational and recuperative. As a direct consequence of the election, Ellen Johnson Sirleaf was elected to fill the role of President of Liberia, making her the country's first woman to hold that position (Jayachandran, 2015). In 2011, she won another term in office as well. In 2015, UN soldiers were sent to assist; their complete departure took place in 2017, therefore granting Liberia full sovereignty in managing a variety of problems, including those about internal security. The circumstances in Liberia are ideal for the production of some of the country's most fundamental goods, such as raw rubber and timber, and the country is also abundant in natural resources (Legrain, 2014). As a consequence of this, a big number of migrants are drawn to Liberia to make use of the many possibilities and rich natural resources that are available there.

#### **Definition of the Main Concepts**

The definition of important concepts is based on definitions supplied by the International Organization of Migrations(IOM) since it is the major agency that provides migratory statistics worldwide. The IOM's website provided us with all the definitions of important concepts the researcher needed for this study. Using definitions offered by the IOM was a crucial part of my study since much of the existing literature on migration by scholars also refers to the IOM definitions of these terms on their website. Defined per the IOM data, categories such as migrants, professionals, labor migrants, remittances, brain drain, developing nations, and developed countries, origins, and destinations are now properly defined to best suit the topic of the research.

#### Migrants

Migrants are defined by the IOM as those individuals, regardless of their legal status, who have relocated across an international border or within a state from their place of residence, regardless of what the reasons for the movement are, how long they intend to stay or even how long they intend to remain (IOM). To put it another way, the motivations for migration become irrelevant the farther one travels from their point of origin. In a nutshell, migrants are people who leave their nations in search of better chances elsewhere, such as in Liberia. It is more crucial for them to contribute to the development of Liberia, where they live and work. The Liberia Institute of Statistics and Geo-Information Services (LISGIS) estimates that approximately 71,917 people from other nations now work and reside in Liberia, and they are referred to as migrants.

#### **Labour Migrants**

Labour migrants are people who move from their native country to another nation in pursuit of work. There are several reasons why someone would do this (IOM). The vast majority of them possess a variety of abilities that may be beneficial to the country to which they are moving. The majority of people who migrate for work do so for a variety of reasons, the most common of which are economic, but other possible motivations include political, sociological, and environmental factors. They make the most of opportunities in their host nations, which are the places where their abilities are in most demand. According to these migrants, making use of their abilities in developing nations utilizing human resource deficit is beneficial not only to them but also to the countries that are hosting them. There are now approximately 71,917 labor migrants who are currently residing in Liberia and working there. Liberia, which serves as our example study, has a similar problem. They hail from all over the globe, including other countries in Africa such as Ghana, Nigeria, the Ivory Coast, and Guinea, as well as the area of the EU, China, and the United States, among other places(IOM).

#### **Professional Migrants**

According to information that was obtained from the website of the International Organization for Migration, professional migrants are often seen as serving as both a symbol and a catalyst for globalization. Those individuals who possess specialized knowledge in a variety of professions are referred to be Professional Migrants. They include, but are not limited to, Agriculturists who worked in the Agriculture and fishing sectors, Engineers who build roads and other infrastructures, Professors who teach at Universities, and Doctors who worked in hospitals, amongst others. There are many of these individuals working in profitable jobs in important industries in Liberia, such as agriculture, fishing, mining, education, healthcare, transportation, and the list goes on. The Liberia Institute of Statistics and Geo-Information Services reports that there are two types of labor migrants living in Liberia: professionals and associate professionals. The Liberian government's official statistics agency produced these data. They are employed in a wide array of industries, such as teaching, farming, information technology, mining, fishing, and medical care, among others. There are a total of labor migrants in Liberia, but 42,323 of them have found work there (LISGIS,2020).

#### **Country of Origin**

The Origin Country, according to the International Organization for Migration, is a source of migration flows. For the most part, the nation of origin refers to a place where individuals depart to either reside permanently or temporarily in another country. Both developed and developing countries are found in the origin nation, often known as the source country. Many of the Migrants Who migrate to Liberia to maximize available possibilities are from source nations. These nations are important to this study because they provide the migrants who fill the human resource deficit in Liberia, even though they have been lavishly compensated for their services, they are also helping Liberia's rebuilding effort after the 14-year civil strife that ravaged the country.

#### **Destination Country**

According to the IOM website, a destination state or receiving country is a state in which migrants have established permanently or temporarily after leaving their birth or origin countries. Liberia is utilized as a destination in this thesis. Our goal is to learn what makes Liberia such an attractive location for migrants. Thousands of Liberians have fled their homes in search of work after the conclusion of the civil war. In addition to the nation's natural riches and economic environment, they are drawn to the country because of fresh prospects and the need for expertise, the country's underdeveloped education system, its subpar health care system, and a slew of other factors. Migrants take advantage of opportunities in these fields, which they do when they go from their countries of origin to Liberia as their final destination.

#### **Brain Drain**

While the civil war in Liberia lasted for more than a decade, many of the nation's residents were forced to flee the country in search of a better life elsewhere since Liberia was a war-torn society and could not offer them the opportunities they needed. We call it "brain drain" when people from Liberia flee to nations where they feel comfortable. When a big number of people leave a region, it's known as "brain drain." A brain drain may be caused by a variety of circumstances, including political turmoil, enticing economic possibilities in other nations, and a yearning for a better quality of life elsewhere. In the workplace, brain drain may occur if a person sees an opportunity to earn more money, have better benefits, or rise through the ranks in another firm or sector. Many Liberian professionals who left the nation during the civil war have established in their new countries and have no plans to return to assist rebuild Liberia's crumbling infrastructure. A rising number of individuals are making the journey to Liberia in pursuit of new opportunities as a consequence of this openness.

#### Remittances

Payments made by migrants to their families in their home countries in return for a share of their earnings are known as workers' or migrant remittances. For many developing nations, these exports have become their primary source of foreign currency, growing at an astounding rate in the last few years. Non-national money is moved back to their country of origin's bank account (IOM). Though the International Organization for Migration was specific in discussing the sending of remittances from developed to developing nations which contribute to the overall economic growth of these developing nations, for this research, we are defining remittances as the sending of money from a developing state to another developing state or a developed country after those migrants who worked within the developing state like Liberia are been gainfully paid for their services.

#### **Developing Country**

Developing countries are nations, which are sovereign states with their government, laws, and institutions but have less developed industrial bases and lower Human Development Indexes. Liberia is utilized as a case study in this research since it is a developing nation. Despite Liberia's abundance of natural riches, the country's population is still mostly uneducated. Even though Liberia is on the periphery, the nation continues to draw migrants, a situation we want to investigate with this study.

#### **Developed Country**

Since it is a sovereign state, a developed nation has a better quality of life, a more developed economy, and the most up-to-date technology infrastructure. The US, Canada, Italy, Germany, Japan, France, the United Kingdom, and Spain are all developed nations in the global North. More and more people are fleeing the industrialized world in pursuit of better prospects in the developing world. Since these industrialized nations have more experts than they need, there are fewer opportunities for them to earn as much as they might. Because of this, they end up moving to developing nations, which have an ever-growing need for professionals like them who can help developing nations catch up to the rest of the world in terms of development.

#### **Literature Review**

For this study, a review of the current research on migration, along with my focus on attracting migrants to developing nations through a case study on Liberia, has been undertaken. This review has provided the researcher with useful data that can be used to back up our findings. Since the literature review helped us understand the global and West African trends of migration as well as Liberian-specific trends that have helped the researcher expand knowledge of migration trends a more insightful picture is been postulated of the factor that drives migrants, mainly professional and labor migrants to Liberia.

#### **Migration from Global Perspective**

According to the International Organization of Migration 2020 report, there is a total of 281 million people as international migrants living in foreign countries. Out of these migrants, some of them didn't move to the western countries or developed countries but migrated to developing countries (Sørensen, 2012). They even migrated to their neighboring countries with low-income and have the same geographical area. Many factors contribute to the act of migration to a different nation and leaving behind the currently living country or homeland (Fischer, Martin & Straubhaar, 2021). Migration is a complex process that involves different influencing factors which are normally categorized into three categories, micro, macro, and meso factors. Macro factors are related to political, social, environmental, and demographic problems. Macro factors are the main driving force of any migration either international or internal. Meso factors include communication, land grabbing, diasporic, and other law and order situations (Methmann & Oels, 2015). On the other hand, micro factors are related to personal issues, marital status, education, and sometimes religion. It is always a difficult process for the migrant in the migrated country. In terms of the integration process, the checking process rather is health checkups for diseases and infections or other migration policies (Piguet, 2013). The most common problem that a migrant face is cultural, religious, and race differences which hinder working and other parts of daily routine life. The most important factor is to be prepared for these migrants in terms of every aspect along with their native citizens. It is important to understand the need and reason for migration (Gorman, 2017). Whether this movement was voluntary or not, possible reasons for this movement, and the duration of their stay in that destination country. Some of the highlighted factors are mentioned below.

#### **Economic Challenges**

In the world, the top-ranked reason for migration is the economic situation and then forced migration. Not all countries in the world have the same economic conditions and growth rates. Some countries can be labeled as developed countries (Bozorgmehr, Roberts, Razum & Biddle, 2020) while a huge number of countries are either developing or under-developed. These developing and under-developed countries have many problems. The development of people living there is often measured using an index called the Human Development Index (HDI) (Cetrez, Shakra, Wirman & Szalanska, 2018). It is an index that focuses on health, education, and economics (including per capita income). According to the United Nations Development program, the highest HDI ranking countries include mainly western countries with a total of 15 western countries and also includes 5 Asian countries (Greene Sr, 2015). Whereas, many African countries had the lowest HDI ranking making it 19 out of 20 countries in 2016. This was not always the worst situation. In the early 2000s, many African countries were experiencing fast economic growth and rising GDP (Hakizimana, 2021). Due to the 2007-2008 world economic crisis, the economic growth of many African countries slowed down and reached 2% GDP growth. An economic problem like this not only forces the illiterate population of these economically challenged countries but also for different professionals to leave their country; commonly called brain drain (Larik & Sahoo, 2018). The recovery rate depends on different factors. It is different for every country but developing countries will require far more time than developed countries like China, Russia, or the US (Manfredi-Sánchez, 2020). These migrating people have no choice but to work hard sometimes harder than the natives to get and maintain their jobs in other countries. According to an estimate, out of the total migrants, approximately one-third of the total are catered by these developing countries including Liberia and many other African, Oceania, and Asian countries (Micinski & Weiss, 2017). These migrants not only help and benefit themselves but also contribute to the destination countries. The migrants have more job opportunities and are open to different variety of jobs (Molnar, 2011). Those destination countries' rules and working policies are not as strict and accountable as the developing countries which helps them work there easily. They often get paid adequately and if there is a prominent currency difference then it is an added plus. It also results in the exchange of remittances between the developing countries (Mvukiyehe & Samii, 2010).

#### **Political and Social Conditions**

If any country has political instability, then it is a serious issue. It is the start of many chain effect causes like security issues and social issues. Liberia is an ideal example of this factor. Due to political instability, Liberia's development was affected. This, as a result, caused two civil wars. The political condition of Liberia is improving slowly that's according to Nair, Bhadra & Sahni, (2019). Its results can be seen in the growth of its economy and the attention of the world. The ratio of migrants migrating to Liberia is increasing than Liberians migrating from Liberia.

#### **Migration from the West African Perspective**

Many countries are located in West Africa including Liberia, Ghana, Benin, Gambia, etc. These countries especially Liberia have emerged to be popular countries for many people for migration. Several factors promote migration that including better earning opportunities, job opportunities, the presence of natural minerals, and agricultural land, that's according to Marchiori, Maystadt & Schumacher (2012). Another group of researchers Brücker, Docquier & Rapoport, in their 2012 literature on migration classified these migrants are mainly from middle to low-income backgrounds. The inclination of migrants towards developing countries rather than developed countries has increased in the past years. Among these developing countries, the West African region is the most popular including Ghana, and Liberia. According to them, there are several reasons behind this increase, most importantly, there is a need for manpower in terms of technology and skills. These countries have a rich history of colonialism, external rule, presidentship, one-man rule, and most importantly civil wars (Kapiszewski, 2017). All these factors are a hindrance to any country's growth. Although many African countries faced growth in the early 2000s it didn't last long due to numerous reasons.

Czaika & De Haas (2014) averred that the most common reasons that people have started migrating to these countries are racism and the increasing level of saturation of migrants in developed countries. Other than this, West African countries are famous for numerous reasons including wildlife, agricultural land, and different minerals. These agricultural land are unique and with a unique combination of climates making them ideal for many different vegetables and crops. By being a developing country, the cost of labor is also cheap which increases business opportunities and manpower at a low cost. This migration is not limited to low-income countries (Beine, Noël & Ragot, 2014). According to the latest stats, high-income country citizens are also seeking migration for economic opportunities. One of the important reasons is the advancement in technology and use of technology which these African countries have the back seat. Other than this, this region is also popular for different export goods and fishing. This part of the world has dense forests (Ajide & Raheem, 2016). Many different fruits and vegetables are produced in West Africa but due to many factors couldn't be exported as much as they should. These factors include poor transportation infrastructure (Bodvarsson & Van den Berg, 2013). As a result, these products fail to reach the international market. These products are of premium quality. These and many other potentials are noticed by many people internationally. They want to avail these kinds of opportunities in these West African countries (Boyle & Keith, 2014). All these are the opportunities starting from agricultural land to fertilization, transportation, and export, are for both professional workers as well as business people. Technology is a sector that is today needed and due to a weak education system, West African countries are in dire need of technological experts (De Brauw, Mueller & Lee, 2014). This is an ideal opportunity for different people who are experts in different areas of technology. De Haas, a renowned migration scholar in his 2012 migration literature narrated that there are many benefits and perks that one experience from migrating to a developing or underdeveloped country rather than migrating to a developed country. According to him, these countries like Liberia are growing economies which implies that there will be more job opportunities. He, similar to Liberia, the education system is not as strong which opens up the opportunities for different experts and professionals to avail themselves. Thirdly, it is easier to work in developing countries and adjust compared to developed countries (Bauer & Zimmermann, 2018). Research shows that racist events are less compared in developed countries. Developing countries have more acceptance and tolerance towards migrants compared to developed countries. Lastly, similar to Liberia, there are more business opportunities like fishing, exports, and agriculture (Thadani & Todaro, 2019). These business opportunities can be proved vital to migrants to improve their life as well as contribute to both the source and destination countries.

#### **Migration from a Liberia Perspective**

Statistically, Brunow, Nijkamp & Poot, (2015) said in 2016, an estimated 2.2 million Liberians didn't have their basic need of food covered. Out of which 68% were in rural areas. Despite 1.6 million Liberians being found to be below the food poverty line and 670,000 living in extreme poverty situations, the country is getting stable and attracting more migrants from around the world. The inequality of poverty situation between rural and urban situations gap was increased to a noticeable extent. For any country, it takes years to recover from economical damage. It was the same case for Liberia (Carling & Collins, 2018). In words, for a country to recover, it needs expert skills in every sector to promote growth. It is a fact that Liberia is rich in different minerals and natural resources but, the country doesn't have the human resource

capacity to manage these resources, and this is where migrant skills are helpful. These resources would help the Liberian people if the country is open to migrants who can work to help the country improve its damaged condition (Scheffran, Marmer & Sow, 2012). These resources include fishery, forestry, fertile soil, and many natural resources.

#### **Political Scenario**

It is still too early to declare Liberia a democratic country but migrants are taking advantage of the current stability of the country. Liberia is still transitioning from dictatorship and the consequences of the civil war to democracy, yet the state is stable and some of the tenets of democracy are being ahead, thus making the environment a haven for migrants. The government follows the American rule of the republic by having three equal branches of government. Its current President George M. Weah is following the Pro-Poor agenda to help the poor and work for the prosperity and development of the nation. He is working hard as the next presidential and legislative elections are in October of 2023. Senate election was held in December 2020 for half of the seats. It was held simultaneously with the constitutional referendum (Harzig & Hoerder, 2013). These senate elections were very important as they gave a glimpse of Weah's popularity. It also provides a glimpse of political stability. The national referendum was also important was the reduction of the Presidents tenure and the tenure of the members of the parliament was rejected (Abel & Sander, 2014). At the same time, the dual citizenship clause was also rejected by the people of Liberia.

#### **Economic Condition of Liberia**

From the recent figures by different national and international institutes, it can rightly be said that Liberia's economy is somewhat progressing from 2003 after the 14 years of war to the present. The GDP is estimated to be 3.6% in 2021 and an increase in the per capita GDP after the economic crisis in 2016 (Songsore, 2020). Still, poverty is increasing but the ratio is also small as compared to past years. It is observed that the inflationary pressure has moderated and slowed to 7.1% from July 2021. The fiscal deficit has also improved making it a total of 1.1% of the GDP and is expected to reduce more (Bastia, 2014). It is also expected that the economy of Liberia will grow by 4.9% from 2022 to 2023. All these figures are the depiction of a developing country.

Both economic and political factors are the major deciding factor for any person who is considering migration to any country (Light, Bhachu & Karageorgis, 2017). These factors are positive for Liberia and migrants across the globe.

#### **Theoretical Review of the Approaches to Migration**

Several fundamental ideas concerning international migration were detailed in an article titled "Ideas of international migration," written by (Massey, Douglas,1993) In conjunction with other scholars, and this essay served as the theoretical foundation for this study. Per the findings of these scholars, the following is a complete examination and review of all of the major international migration theories.

#### The Neo-Classical Theory of Migration

Using the neo-classical theory of migration as a starting point, it is possible to describe the phenomenon of migration most well. Migration, according to this novel theory, is largely motivated by logical economic considerations that weigh similar costs and benefits, mostly fiscal but sometimes emotional (Todora, 2011). When this idea was first proposed, it was used to explain migration within the context of economic expansion. Lewis (1954) and others have demonstrated that migration is a result of wage differences across markets or countries, which are generally induced by variable degrees of labor sector rigidity. The hypothesis once again argued that migration is driven by the geographical differences in labor between countries with a high concentration of labor and countries with a high concentration of capital. Lowwage workers migrate to high-wage locations per this notion, which is also backed by actual data. In other words, the number of persons who migrate is inversely proportional to the size of the wage gap. Concerning the countries mentioned above, one example of a more concrete explanation is offered here. This explains why African economic migrants go irregularly to Europe for various reasons. Unemployed and underemployed labor is abundant in Africa, yet labor is scarce in numerous European countries. As a consequence of this, Africans are increasingly migrating to Europe in search of higher-paying employment opportunities. Despite the grim reality that many European receiving countries are suffering from stagnant economies and significant unemployment, particularly among young people, the situation is far from hopeless (Lewis, 1954). Once again, this argument fails to explain why migrants go to developing countries, especially when there are opportunities in these countries that

attract migrants, particularly labor migrants. As previously indicated, the ability to move is not just driven by economic differences, but also by the costs of doing so. Since the poorest of the poor are not the only ones migrating, neither are the poorest countries. According to this migration theory, Africans leave their homelands in search of higher wages in other countries because of the big wage disparity or the more enticing compensation disparity they find there. As far as the researcher can tell, migrants from affluent countries go to developing ones to profit from their professional skills and generate a sizable sum of cash like the case of migrants seeking opportunities in Liberia.

## **Human Capital Theory**

Larry (1962) was the one who came up with this idea. Another neo-classical economic theory of migration is born out of an examination of human desire at the level of the person. According to this theory, the socio-demographic characteristics of people have an impact on their micro-level migration (Lucia, 2011). According to this point of view, rational individuals act to take advantage of their chances and achieve their objectives. It is also argued that variables affecting migration such as education and job experience, as well as marital status, gender, occupation, and the situation in the labor market, are major drivers of who migrates and who does not. People's urge to go down the road diminishes with age but grows with higher levels of knowledge, according to the notion. The desire of migrants from industrialized countries to migrate to developing ones is motivated by a variety of factors.

# **Push and Pull Theory of Migration**

The Push and Pull Theory, on the other hand, is a theory that stresses the economic background of migration as well as other factors. According to this theory, the push factors are those causes that drive people to leave their home nations and go to other countries, while the pull factors might be political, economic, or socio-cultural (Thet, Kyaing Kyaing,2019). This theory is mostly, especially from the dimension of the pull factor being used in the analysis of the factors that entice people to migrate to Liberia. Violent conflicts, wars, political instability, and natural disasters are some of the Push elements that are that push migrants from their countries of origin. We will have in-depth discussions on the findings which are stipulated in chapter four about how the push factor of migration influences migrants' attraction to Liberia.

# The New Economic Theory of Migration

The new economic theory of migration also explains the other economic factors of migration that have recently been discovered. This theory proposes a new degree of analysis as well as a new native of migratory determinant compared to previous theories. According to the idea, migration choices are not determined by isolated individual players, but rather by groups of people such as families or households (Lucia 2011). In addition to this, the decisions made by migrants are influenced by a wide range of factors that are shaped by conditions in their home country, and these decisions are not only influenced by wage differentials or the rational choice of individual migrants but can also include some other variables that are related to relative deprivation. A home that performs comparatively worse than other households will be more willing to transfer a member overseas who can assist in risk aversion and risk minimization of the household income, according to the theory of relative deprivation this theory examines migration at the home level; migration is seen as a sort of social insurance in this context (Douglas, 1998).

## The Network Theory of Migration

Migrants' motives for moving to Liberia may be better understood by using the network theory of migration. Even when salary differentials and recruitment campaigns are no longer in existence, this idea, as presented by Massey Douglas (1993), helps to explain why migration is so durable across both time and space. Scholars believe that the presence of a diaspora or migratory networks might impact migrants' judgments on where to go. A second key driver of labor and professional migration, according to this school of thought, is the role performed by migratory networks. Friends and family members who can provide information, assistance, and opportunities, as well as resources available to those who migrate to developing countries for business or to fill in the human resource gap that these countries are experiencing, would make migration prohibitively expensive and risky, he believes (Mckeown, 2004).

## **Theoretical Framework of the Study**

The primary theoretical framework used by the researcher was that of the pull component of migration. The study looks at the pull factors (reasons why migrants want to go to Liberia). The researcher chooses to focus on the pull factor of migration since it is the primary impetus for human mobility. New projects and the need for technical assistance, agricultural investment, a lack of educational alternatives, and economic opportunities are all pull factors that lead migrants to go to Liberia. The pull variables in the research represent the central argument of the thesis, which is focused on the causes of migration to Liberia. The research's attractiveness serves as corroboration for the thesis's bottling line. The Pull factor also accounts for the possibility that life in the state has returned to normal, but that migrants mostly especially Labour migrants are still required due to a shortage of human resources which was ignited as the result of the 14 years of war. This is because many Liberians lack the necessary skills to contribute to the nation's economic and social revitalization. These pull factors of migration are examined in some detail in chapter 4 of this study, which is the primary component of the examination of the reasons that attract migrants to move to Liberia.

In the second chapter, we concentrated a lot of our attention on the theoretical and conceptual framework of the research, which consisted of a review of the most important theories and ideas, as well as a review of the associated literature that is pertinent to the study. The pull factor of migration, which is the primary theoretical approach for determining the variables that pull migrants to Liberia, received a lot of attention in this chapter. In this third chapter, we now look at the historical dimension of Liberia, which will include its foundation as well as the actors involved, global migration, as well as the historical dynamics of the migratory trend in West Africa.

#### **CHAPTER III**

### Historical Background, Migration West Africa, And Liberia

This chapter covers the historical background of Liberia as a nation founded and its 14 years of war-torn experience as well as the historical backdrops of global migration and the historical dimension of the West Africa Migration trend. Global migration is a huge prospect for the nations that are immensely benefitting from migrants seeking new chances. Migrants prefer moving to developing countries as a destination since many options may be employed to enhance their social standing. For the most part, these historical patterns are a look into Liberia's origins and the people who helped shape it.

## **Historical Dimension of Global Migration**

Throughout the modern period, migration to other European nations was a typical strategy of fleeing persecution for groups such as the Huguenots and Jews in Europe (such as when farmers moved to find employment in newly growing industries). People would go to a new country, live there for some time, and then return to where they were born as part of a ritual known as seasonal mobility. Before European dominance, hundreds of thousands of people traveled to and from Africa. These waves of emigration occurred throughout time and in many corners of the globe (Afani, 2013). Other reasons for migration included a desire to avoid natural catastrophes or conflicts, as well as a desire for more personal safety and security. Many Nigerians for example went to the Arabian Peninsula during this period for religious reasons. This was particularly true in Yoruba culture.

Additionally, Asia's long history of trade has given its inhabitants more mobility. To reach the Malay Peninsula, Indonesia, and the Philippine archipelagos, Arab and Chinese traders exploited pre-existing marine routes. The existence of navigable rivers enabled these business expeditions. Since economic links had been established, it was possible to go from India to the Arabian Peninsula and then to West Africa. Several instances of tiny social groups of South Asian artists traveling cyclically were found.

Following the European conquest of the New Globe, Europeans migrated to various regions of the world, mainly North and South America, as well as Australia and New Zealand (for example, the Pilgrim Fathers, who fled Plymouth in 1620). The Pilgrim Fathers (who departed Plymouth in 1620) are a great example of this. Even though the European invasion of America started as early as 1500 CE, European expansion truly took off in the late 18th and early 19th centuries. European countries such as the United Kingdom and Spain often encourage their residents to go abroad. Germany, the Netherlands, and France are among these countries (Tinker, 1995).

As a result of the massive migrations that occurred throughout this period, Europe came to dominate many parts of the world. When European immigrants came to indigenous cultures, they often brought illnesses that lowered their numbers. Local communities that had previously referred to particular areas as their homes lost control and access to these territories as a result of military action and the growth of settlement groupings. Previously, these areas were home to members of the aforementioned ethnic groups. Because of the slave trade, has been a key role in human migration throughout history. The first slave ship went from Africa to the West Indies around 1550, delivering slaves for European sugar and tobacco plantations at the time. These plantations required a substantial amount of work daily. This requirement has to be met to meet the ever-increasing demand for expanded output. According to estimates, around 10 million Africans, predominantly from West Africa, were captured and sold as slaves in the United States. Nigerians made up over three-quarters of those in attendance. Kidnappings were particularly widespread in Western Africa. These people were executed in a variety of methods at different stages along the road. Both the attacks on local towns and the forced marches of slaves away from their homes and toward the shore were planned by African merchants, resulting in a large number of fatalities. When it came to slavery, African-born and raised slaves were exposed to the same atrocities as slaves from other nations, whether they were confined in forts or transported by sea. According to historical migration estimates, about as many individuals died in Africa as were taken out of the continent. According to studies, almost 40 million Americans and Caribbean residents may have ancestors who were slaves. Britain had eclipsed all other nations in the world's enslaved trade as early as the first decade of the 18th century. This feat was accomplished when the British Empire was still in its infancy. According to a recent study, about one-fifth of the country's rich Victorians had slaves at some time. Slavery in Africa peaked in the late 1800s and early 1900s when the United States was at its most prosperous. Slavery was

illegal in many nations across Europe, North America, and the Caribbean, therefore slaves could not be traded. On January 1, 1834, the British Slavery Abolition Act was passed into law, bringing an end to slavery across the British Empire. This is "Abolition Day," and it's crucial to remember. Former slave owners received millions of pounds in reparations from the British government at the time.

Since the 1970s, there has been an increase in the number of nations exporting and receiving migrants. This has become a reality as a result of globalization. Immigrants are flocking to Western Europe, the United States of America, Australia, and New Zealand, even though these nations were formerly seen as undesirable locations to reside. These countries, such as Italy, Spain, and Portugal, have long been key actors in the international migration industry. The Gulf region's economic prosperity has increased as a consequence of rising oil prices, which has resulted in more migration. Increased migration is a result of increased work prospects. Despite this, the majority of the movement is transient and temporary. There has been an upsurge in the number of individuals from less-developed Asian countries visiting Thailand, Malaysia, Hong Kong, and Singapore. Burma and Bangladesh are no different. Many of these people are escaping severe poverty in Asia.

There are significant characteristics that distinguish this historical period's migration from previous migrations. According to United Nations figures, the number of female migrants has increased in recent years. In 2005, women made up more than half of all migrants worldwide. Women made up the majority of migrant populations in Europe, Latin America, the Caribbean, North America, Oceania, and the former Soviet Union (Koser, 2007). Women are increasingly traveling for themselves rather than for their partners or families, and this trend is projected to continue. As a result, an increasing number of women are electing to choose this path on their own. Because of their willingness to labor in distant areas, these women are often the primary breadwinners in their families.

Historically, migration was more likely to result in a long-term settlement, whereas migration now is more likely to result in temporary settlement. Prior waves of migration were more likely to result in migrants settling down. Those that came early in the migration process had a better chance of creating a permanent home. This was far less prevalent a few decades ago since there were fewer people on the planet. As a consequence, it is currently more common than ever before.

# Historical Dimension of Migration in West, Africa

People and products may easily migrate throughout the sub-region, making it a centuries-old economic entity. Studying the migratory patterns and policies of the area requires a detailed understanding of the region's history. Before European colonialism, the most typical motives for migration were the desire to relocate to a new location with strong agricultural potential and the possibility of permanent settlement. Colonial administrations altered migratory reasons and demographics by establishing and enforcing a broad range of hybrid political and economic institutions, taxation systems, and defining territorial boundaries. The use of economic and recruitment strategies like as compulsory recruitment, contract, and forced labor laws and agreements has helped to drive the regional labor movement from Mali, Togo, and the Upper Volta to road networks, plantations, and mines in the Gold Coast and Ivory Coast. Among the measures enacted were international treaties and laws. The need for workers on highways, farms, and mines was the main cause behind this upheaval. Long-distance migration was formerly hampered by both trip lengths and safety, but transportation made it simpler for individuals to migrate for employment by lowering both variables. These technologies permitted and transformed seasonal, transnational migration, which eventually became institutionalized, to allow and modify large-scale population shifts. Cross-border migrations were a distinctive aspect of these migrations. A range of socioeconomic, political, and historical-cultural variables influence West African migration trends. These variables have affected the course of economic growth and the sorts of economic activity that have taken place, as well as migration, notably international migration. Temporary workers, female merchants, agricultural laborers, and professionals, as well as clandestine workers and refugees, migrate from and within the subregion. As a result of the economics of adjacent nations, these migrations are often short-term, male-dominated, and intra-regional. As a consequence, the emigration procedure varies greatly. Côte d'Ivoire and Ghana have traditionally been the most popular immigration destinations. Nigeria became an appealing destination for migrants in the 1970s as the number of oil-related opportunities increased in numerous Nigerian economic sectors. Burkina Faso, Mali, Guinea Conakry, Cape Verde, and Togo continue to be the most important countries

when it comes to the exporting of labor. The number of expatriates in Cape Verde outnumbers the number of permanent inhabitants (Carling, 2002). Senegal's traditional dual-export and dual-import activity have been labor. These advancements have occurred during the previous few years. As a result, Senegal has become a transit point for persons attempting to enter the European Union through the Strait of Gibraltar and the Canary Islands. Ghana and Nigeria's economies started to collapse in the late 1960s and early 1980s, and both countries became labor exporters. Ghana was the first nation to begin exporting labor, followed by Nigeria. More Ghanaians are returning home as a consequence of the government's forward-thinking economic policies and the country's relative political stability. Due to deteriorating socioeconomic circumstances and rising poverty levels, a wide range of migration patterns evolved in the late 1960s and early 1970s. An employment problem has evolved as a result of macroeconomic changes as well as huge growth in the workforce. As a result of this predicament, emigration has grown increasingly popular. a substantial number of Ghanaian professionals have relocated to other African nations, Europe, and North America as a consequence of better income and living circumstances, starting with Nigeria in the 1970s and continuing to the present. Among the migrants are instructors, professors, scientists, and engineers, as well as paramedics, nurses, and teachers. Despite worsening political, economic, and social conditions, many of the students elected to remain in their home countries at the end of their training. It's been almost 30 years since countries like Côte d'Ivoire and Nigeria, two of the world's most desirable migrant labor destinations, started enduring political and economic challenges. The most prevalent reason mentioned for leaving is an increase in the number of Nigerians leaving the nation. Due to the attractiveness and global competitiveness of local job conditions, few Nigerian professionals left the nation until the early 1980s. Inflation, currency depreciation, a reduction in real incomes, authoritarian military rule, and an insecure economic situation all contributed to the mass departure of professional and unskilled workers to other countries as a result of the falling oil price and significant loss in oil revenue. Post-apartheid Nigerians and Ghanaians were also hired to work at South Africa's colleges, universities, and other higher education institutions. Small shopkeepers and street vendors from Sierra Leone and Senegal flocked to the country's marketplaces as well. Female migrants are increasingly resorting to the paid labor market to ensure their well-being and complement the inadequate wages of their families back home (both legal and informal). A spike in unaccompanied married

female outmigration has emerged as a distinct and novel phenomenon, at least among the sub-educated region's population. Migration routes in West Africa, which are dominated by men and span short to long distances, are becoming increasingly gendered. When the economy deteriorates, migration is one of the most essential survival mechanisms for women in the sub-region. Professional women in Nigeria, Senegal, and Ghana are leaving their husbands behind to care for their children to meet their economic requirements rather than just following their spouses. Females may be able to move on their own, even over the globe, according to the phenomena of female migration. As a consequence of this new phenomenon, gender norms and sexuality, in general, is changing. 3 Women in commercial migration dominate the sub-regions migratory structure. Smaller nations, such as Benin, Gambia, and Togo, depend largely on regional trade. Outside of the sub-regional area in which I reside, men prevail in leadership positions. Senegalese and Malians from the Sahel region used to go to France to find employment. They lived in Zambia and Zimbabwe before moving to South Africa, where English is widely spoken, and now to the United States of America (Adepoju, 2000). Plantation workers in Côte d'Ivoire smuggle children from Togo, Nigeria, and Mali. They are employed as domestic staff in Gabon. For the second time in recent years, African women have been transferred to Europe to serve as sex slaves. According to reports, women and children are being trafficked illegally in the "Triangle of Shame," which includes the borders of Niger, Chad, and Nigeria. Hundreds of trafficked women from the Nigerian state of Edo work in the sex industry in Italy.

# Liberia Historical Dimension

Liberia, on Africa's west coast, is officially known as the Republic of Liberia. Sierra Leone, Guinea, and the Ivory Coast are all common borders (Spilkin, 2011). The Atlantic Ocean is found to the southwest of the area. The ethnic solidarity in the area is very culturally diverse due to the region's dynamic cultural variety. Located in the heart of Africa, Liberia is home to the country's capital and biggest city, Monrovia (Thompson, 2013). English is Liberia's official national language, although the country also has a smattering of regional languages reflective of the country's many ethnic groupings. Among the numerous ethnic groups in Liberia are: 20,3% of the population are Kpelle; 13,4% are Bassa; 10,3% are Grebo; 8,3% are Gio; 7,9% of the population are Mano; 6,3% are Kru; 5,1% are Lorma; 4,8% are Kiss; 4,4% are Gola; 4,8% are

Krahn; 4,8% are Vai; 3,2% are Mandinka; 3,3% are Gbandi; 1,3% are Mende; 1,1% are Sapo; 0, (Urey, 2018). There are 1.4 percent other Africans and 0.1 percent non-Africans in the area. 86.2% of Liberians identify as Christian, 11.7% as Muslim, 1.4% as Unaffiliated, and the other 0.7% are affiliated with one of the other faiths practiced in Liberia. President George Weah and Vice President Jewel Taylor lead Liberia's Unitary Presidential the Constitutional Republic in recent rule (De Jong & Gardner, 2020). The Legislature is the most powerful structure in Liberia's government, which includes both the upper and lower houses, the Senate and the House of Representatives. Chief Justice Francis Korkpor and four associate justices oversee the judicial branch of government. The American Colonization Society established Liberia as a colony on January 7, 1822. On July 26, 1847, the area proclaimed its independence. Liberia's current most significant diplomatic partner in the anarchic International System, the United States, officially acknowledged the country's independence in 1862. (Malmberg, 2021). In 1945, the country was able to join the United Nations as a member state, and the present constitution was written in 1986 to reflect this. According to the 2008 census, the total land area is 111,369 km2 and the population is estimated at 3.608 million people (De Haas, 2012). The state's recent measures have resulted in a \$2.7billion increase in the region's GDP. During the 19th century, the American Colonization Society established Liberia on a mission to provide more freedom and opportunity for African-Americans in Africa. One of its goals was to create a free zone for African Americans in the United States where they could work and flourish in all facets of their lives (Bauer & Zimmermann, 2018). Between 1822 and 1861, the American economy was affected by a civil conflict known as the American Civil War. More than 15,000 African Americans were emancipated from the state during this battle, allowing them to relocate and build a new way of life free from social and legal persecution (Thadani & Todaro, 2019). Liberia was founded by the Afro-Caribbean people who moved to the country from the Caribbean. This helped them to settle and adapt to their new country's culture since they were American Liberians. Also, The Liberian constitution and flag were based on the United States constitution and flag, respectively (Marchiori, Maystadt & Schumacher, 2012). As the United States did not recognize the region's independence, it faced a variety of obstacles. Liberia became an independent state in 1847, although the United States would not recognize it until 1862. After Liberia declared its independence, Joseph Jenkins Roberts became the country's first president.

#### **Challenges of Political Instability**

In 1980, the establishment of military control under the People's Redemption Council sparked a wave of political unrest in the area. The National Democratic Party of Liberia (NDPL) created the five-year civilian administration in the face of the first and second Liberian Civil Wars (De Brauw, Mueller & Lee, 2014). These caused the lives of 250,000 people, or 8 percent of Liberia's population, and slowed the country's economy from shifting. A peace accord signed in 2003 was challenged by the elections in 2005 (Belot & Ederveen, 2012). For Liberia and Liberians, the elections were a turning point since the public for the first time chose Liberia Ellen Johnson Sirleaf, the first woman president of the whole African area, and also the first elected female president of Africa. Liberia's Ebola outbreak was triggered by the conclusion of the conflict and civil war, which occurred from 2013 to 2016. Around 83% of the population was living below the poverty level in 2015, according to official figures by the Word Bank but this has changed overtimes due to rapid growth (Fischer, Martin & Straubhaar, 2021). A key problem for the government in Liberia has been the dominance of Liberia's indigenous population in the region's administration. In West Africa, the existence of the Oldowan Earlier Stone Age in Liberia was taken into account for the management of artifacts, as proven by Michael Omolewa (Arango & Baldwin-Edwards, 2014). The Undated Acheulean objects have been extensively recorded throughout West Africa, demonstrating their importance to the chronometric record of the Middle Stone Age. Since the Middle Pleistocene in Liberia's northern area, there have been indications of the core and flake technologies in West Africa (Haugen, 2012). The presence of people in forest remnants in West Africa's northern and southern regions has been a key example of technologically questionable circumstances.

### **1980 Military Coup**

In Liberia in 1980, a military coup d'état damaged every government endeavor. The military takeover of power harmed the economy since it had a direct influence on trade efforts and also made it more difficult to export commodities (Greene Sr, 2015). Corruption and political oppression were hallmarks of the region. During the 1985 presidential election, Liberia voted to adopt a new constitution. For a lengthy period, Liberia's ethnic groups suffered greatly as a result of the country's instability (Hakizimana, 2021). Liberia's civil war continued to wreak havoc on the area, as the rebels seized control of the country's provinces. The rebels were split up into factions that were continuously engaged in economic warfare. Disputes over land, racism and poor leadership were all blamed for the violence (Larik & Sahoo, 2018). Many innocent and defenseless civilians were killed at large during these years of atrocious and brutal extended conflict, leading to the departure of the population to neighboring nations. The 1997 reelections were the result of peace agreements negotiated between rebel groups. Exports of Liberian blood diamonds, rubber, cocoa, and lumber were well-known across the world community during this period (Manfredi-Sánchez, 2020). It was a turning point for Liberia in the 21st century when the state's governing processes were overhauled in several ways. Rebel factions in Liberia's second rebellion established the Liberian Democracy Movement (LDM). Initiatives for peace negotiations and settlements were taking conducted to deal with the difficult consequences of the civil war (Micinski & Weiss, 2017). An attack on Monrovia slowed down the nefarious behavior against humanity. Women of Liberia Mass Action for Peace and the world community help to build a more stable area (Molnar, 2011). All of Liberia was protected and supervised by a United Nations peacekeeping force. After the 2005 elections, the interim government assumed control, resulting in the election of Ellen Johnson Sirleaf as Africa's first female president (Mvukiyehe & Samii, 2010). Efforts were made to repair the damage created by the conflict to restore the residents' faith in the future. A watershed moment in Liberian history, this event marked the beginning of a period of change in the country's administration and improved the lives and conditions of its citizens (Nair, Bhadra & Sahni, 2019). The sloping coastal plains of Liberia, home to mangroves and swaps, are a notable feature of the country's landscape. Along with the undulating terrain and low mountains towards the northeast, the mangroves and marshes grow in elevation (Pailey, 2018). Semi-deciduous forests and dominating plants dominate the slopes of the tropical rainforest. Because of the country's tropical climate, it's heated all year round. There is also a lot of rain and wind in this part of the forest all year round, which presents challenges for the people living there (Palattiyil, Sidhva, Seraphia Derr & Macgowan, 2021). For the whole area, Liberia's watershed provides an interior mountain range. Mangrove trees are salt-resistant since the country's woods stretch the shoreline. Forests spread into a plateau of drier grasses in the sparsely inhabited interior (Spilkin, 2011). Territorial ecoregions are lively because of the favorable climate, which attracts both locals and visitors. Counties in Liberia are further split into districts, which are

themselves divided into clans, with a total of 90 districts in the whole country. Constitutions based on budgetary restrictions govern the governance of these territories (Thompson, 2013). Through local and municipal divisions in the nation, standard legislation is established to divide the country into administrative units. As part of Liberia's decentralization program, the Liberian government has constructed a system that divides tasks and obligations among the many local administrations (Urey, 2018). People's migratory patterns are largely influenced by environmental concerns. Conservation efforts in Liberia focus on protecting elephants, pygmy hippopotami, and other endangered species, as well as a variety of other primates. The region's biodiversity presents a danger to humanity, destroying agricultural land (De Jong & Gardner, 2013). Trade-in wood is a big component of this region's deforestation, and it's an issue that has to be addressed. During the conclusion of the civil war in 2003, illegal logging was a major problem (Malmberg, 2021). Licenses were given to the firms to chop down Liberia's forests to make money by exporting timber.

## **Oldest Modern Republics of Africa**

Liberia has been recognized as one of the oldest modern republics of Africa and it is amongst the few countries that have acclaimed sovereignty during the scramble of Africa. The most crucial period for Liberia was during World War II when Liberia supported the USA during the war with Germany and in return, a huge amount of investment was awarded to Liberia (Kapiszewski, 2017). The investment was used in building the infrastructure of the country along with different initiatives for the country's wealth and development. The region was facing numerous economic and political challenges that were being supported by the initiatives of President William V.S Tubman supporting the growth and development of the country's prosperity and international profile through an open door policy that attracted more investors, multilateral corporations, and international institutions (Czaika & De Haas, 2014). Liberia has been recognized as the founding member of the League of Nations, the United Nations, and the Organization of African Unity. Recognization of any actor is important because it is one of the six characteristics of a state. The development of the region shows the scope of prospective growth that reflects the community development initiatives (Beine, Noël & Ragot, 2014). The major obstacle during the formation of the was Americo-Liberian(repatriated slaves) failing to relate with the indigenous population they met on the ground. The population of people that we're

residing in the isolated interiors was also challenging for the US settlers as they failed to connect with the indigenous but established a strong scope of hegemony (Ajide & Raheem, 2016). The colonial settlements were mainly raided by the Kru and Grebo as the chiefdom of islands that showed the connection of the Americo-Liberians being promoted as the religious organizations. The returnee's brains watched the society with their westernized values and promoted their dominance in every spectrum of the society. The most important mission of the governing counties was towards educating the native population and developing a small population of the disproportionate elite of which they succeeded for decades (Bodvarsson & Van den Berg, 2013). Although they were met on the ground, the indigenous Liberians were absurdly skipped off every right to citizenship of the land till 1904 dominating the existence of these members of the community. In 1980 political tension was observed during the rule of William R. Tolbert, the immediate successor of Liberia's long-stayed President William V.S Tubman, as a result of the military coup that resulted in the demise of Tolbert (Boyle & Keith, 2014). The American Liberian rule ended within the country and a new era of political instability started in the region.

## **Mande Expansion**

The Mande expansion has played a significant role in the history of the region. The most important aspect of the Pepper Coast is linked and known with the Grain Coast which was inhabited by the indigenous people of Africa (King, 2015). The dominance of the Mande people goes back to the 20<sup>th</sup> century which reflects the expansion of these people westward from Sudan. This forces the smaller ethnic groups southward towards the Atlantic Ocean classifying the major population of Mande people in the African region (Günther & Launov, 2012). The people that have dominated this area belonging to the Mande people are the Dei, Bassa, Kru, Gola, and Kissi the earliest documented people in the area. The influx of these people and the spread of the Mande people was compounded across the Sudanic Mali Empire in 1375 and later in the Songhai Empire in 1591 (King, 2012). The dynamics of the region changed with time and reflected that many areas entered desertification with the movement of the people. The change of the people across the regions assisted the people in developing new skills such as cotton spinning and cloth weaving that eased the processes (Kattel & Sapkota, 2018). The process of iron smelting, rice, and sorghum cultivation was an effect of the development of the social and political

institutions of the people. Mali and Songhai empires were established after the Mane conquered the region which reflected that the Vai people of the former Mali Empire immigrated to the Grand Cape Mount County (Kerr, Kerr, Özden & Parsons, 2016). There were differences between the Kru and Vai people allying with the Mane to stop the influx of these people within the lands. The people along the coast earned their livelihood through building canoes and trading with the West Africans (Artuc, Docquier, Özden & Parsons, 2015). The Arabs also dominated these regions captivated these people and took them as slaves from the northern and eastern routes of Africa.

The scope of early colonization in the region began in the late 17<sup>th</sup> century between the Portuguese, Dutch and British traders who had contacts and trading posts in the region. This came to be known as Grain Coast because the pepper grains were abundant along the coast (Van Hear, Bakewell & Long, 2018). The European traders established trade routes with the people and established trade of the commodities and goods with the local people. The focus of the United States people was on establishing and settling the free people of color that were free-born and were enslaved in Africa (Jayachandran, 2015). The aspects of racial discrimination were increasing in the USA and the people of color were demanding civil, religious, and social rights. The American Colonization Society was made up mostly of the Quakers and slaveholders who had a belief that the black members of the community had a stronger chance of surviving through freedom in Africa than in the US (Legrain, 2014). This attempt was also made as an initiative for controlling the slave rebellions in this region through the repatriation of the free people of color.

# **American Colonization Society**

The American Colonization Society initiated the process of sending people of color in 1822. The Pepper Coast was surrounded by people and a colony was established around that area. The migrants in the initial stage faced numerous different challenges that included survival from adverse weather conditions and tropical diseases (Brunow, Nijkamp & Poot, 2015). By 1867 more and more migrants were being sent to Liberia from the USA that forming a huge amount of population of the region in the modern-day. The African Americans and their descendants married within the community for identifying as Americo-Liberians that mixed with the race and were educated within the American culture (Carling & Collins, 2018). The role of the indigenous natives is important as the tribes encountered intermarriages within the

colonial community. This developed the diversification amongst the ethnic groups based on cultural traditions that were infused with the American notions of political republicanism and Protestant Christianity (Scheffran, Marmer & Sow, 2012). The prominent American politicians supported repatriation for establishing colonies that supported the development of the region. Lincoln in 1862 described Liberia as being an integral state for the migrating people of the USA proposing a free land for the people of color (Düvell, 2012).

The role of the Americo-Liberian settlers related to the indigenous people and encountered with the communities. The goal of the colonial settlements was connected with the Kru and Grebo members of the chiefdom (Simmons, 2016). This allowed encountering tribal Africans in the bush that ultimately became violent. The objective was to believe that the people were culturally and educationally superior to the indigenous people. The Americo Liberians developed a minority that allowed sustaining the political power in the region in a conscious effort for emulating the American South (Harzig & Hoerder, 2013). The American Liberian settlers wore clothing such as hoop skirt and tailcoats that was adopted from the culture of the USA. The colonial people of the region were trying to dominate the indigenous people based on their expertise and qualifications. The education of the colonial migrants was far superior compared to the indigenous people which enhanced the economic activities of the region (Abel & Sander, 2014). The development of plantations and the lack of ability of the natives forced them to work as slaves under the governance of the colonial people. The development of the indigenous people took time and this was done till 1904 by the Americo-Liberians that encouraged religious organizations (Songsore, 2020). The indigenous people were later encouraged by the religious organizations that set up missions and schools in which some of the most men became educated. The political formation of the region was developed through issuing the Declaration of Independence for establishing a constitutional order society. The political principles of the United States Constitution were established in the independent Republic of Liberia (Bastia, 2014). The United Kingdom was the first state that recognized Liberia as a sovereign and independent republic. The United States recognized Liberia's right to exist in 1862 after the country emerged as a strong political entity and the American government was declared as a Confederacy governing the region (Light, Bhachu & Karageorgis, 2017). The leadership of the new region was based on a combination of the Americo-Liberian people in Liberia who

were dominating the local indigenous people of the country. The economic dominance of the coastal areas was established based on the relationship for passage of the 1865 Ports of Entry Act (Sørensen, 2012). Foreign commerce was also established for the region which created the growth of civilized values and trade enhancing the economic sustainability of the region. In the year 1877, the True Whig Party was the country's strongest political entity that was governed by the Americo-Liberian people of the community (Methmann & Oels, 2015). The social, economic, and political dominance of the 20<sup>th</sup> century repeats the patterns of European colonists across Africa.

Liberia was an essential region for the USA and UK that governed the major portions of the state. The dynamics of the region were essential aspects of consideration for the north and west that led Liberia to lose a significant portion of its territories to neighboring states including Sierra Leone, Guinea, and Ivory Coast (Piguet, 2013). Liberia faced challenges in attracting investments for developing the infrastructure of the region that hindered it from becoming an industrial economy. The production of Liberian goods cocoa and rubber declined, thus halting pits export-based operations of the economy (Gorman, 2017). The indebtedness of the region and the international loans enhanced significantly with the decline in trade. The passing time changed the focus of the economy and made the people capable of designing international interests (Bozorgmehr, Roberts, Razum & Biddle, 2020). Rubber production is a major industry in Liberia that contributes to the development of the state. The interests of Liberia were neutral during World War I in 1917 but during World War II, Liberia showed complete support to the US (Cetrez, Shakra, Wirman & Szalanska, 2018).

This chapter addresses Liberia from a historical point of view, covering the country's foundation as a sovereign nation and the people engaged in that process. The history of global migration as well as West African migration was also spotlighted. The fourth chapter will now concentrate on the dimension that is at the heart of this study which is an examination of the variables that draw migrants to Liberia.

#### CHAPTER IV

### In-Depth Discussion Of Factors That Motivate Migrants To Liberia

This chapter of the thesis looks at the fundamental essence of this study, which identifies the pull factors as the primary elements that are responsible for drawing migrants to the country of Liberia. It focuses on the worsening conditions in Liberia both during and after the civil war that ravaged the country. Additionally, it discusses how every sector of the country was decimated, as well as how things have progressed over time, which has led to the state becoming a preferred destination for migrants, particularly laborers. Since it was established in Chapter two that the Push and Pull factors of migration considerably the pull factor serves as the primary theoretical approach to the study, the purpose of this chapter is to provide a more in-depth examination of the variables that encourage migration to Liberia.

### Factors that drive migrants to Liberia

The West African state of Liberia, which has been through some of the most trying times in its history as a direct result of a civil war that lasted for 14 years and was extremely destructive, is currently recovering from the effects of the war. Almost all of the nation's physical infrastructure was destroyed while the country was engaged in the Civil War. Nonetheless, the international community as a whole has made considerable interventions, with the United Nations (UN), the European Union(EU), the African Union (AU), the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), and the United States (US) all playing key roles. Because of their actions, the parties involved in the dispute were able to come to terms with a ceasefire, which ultimately resulted in the conclusion of the drawn-out fight. The country is back to the previous level of normality it had reached, the economy is on the path to recovery, and among other things, there has been a significant rise in the amount of infrastructure. It is noteworthy to note that between the years 2003 and the present, Liberia has seen significant growth in the number of migrants, and it is anticipated that this number will continue to rise. The significance of the migration of highly educated and experienced migrants across international borders is reaching new heights at an unprecedented rate. On the other hand, considering that Liberia is now undergoing growth and has the potential to see an acceleration in its pace of development, this

should not come as a surprise. The pull factors that drive the migration to Liberia are illustrated in the graphic that can be found below.



For multiple years, wars in West Africa, notably Liberia, have resulted in a high migrant ratio too rich countries like the US, Australia, the United Kingdom, and so on. The vast majority of these individuals had a wide range of technical abilities and expertise (Haugen, 2012). They departed Liberia for several reasons, not the least of which was a lack of possibilities in their origin country during the conflict. As a result, Liberia today suffers a scarcity of highly skilled professionals, a phenomenon known as the "brain drain". Brain drain, in its simplest form, is the movement of highly educated and competent persons from their home nations to other countries which is frequently produced by the pull and push aspects of migration. Many new and current initiatives in Liberia are now likely to draw individuals from other nations when they need expert resources (Bertoli & Moraga, 2013). To achieve this, they had to come up with some incentives and options for migrants. Rapid technological progress is another consideration. Due to political and administrative instability, Liberians were unable to keep up with the rest of the world in terms of technological advancement (Bettini, 2013). The war in Liberia created a huge human resource deficit resulting in a shortage of highly skilled and well-trained Liberians. With the serene condition of the country, professionals from other states, skills, and expertise are highly needed. Migrants' decisions to migrate to Liberia are impacted by a variety of circumstances, all of which have an impact on the country's development. Migration to Liberia is largely driven by the possibility of a better life, which is a reasonable expectation. It is expected that migrants have a major impact on a country's economic structure, in addition to on other key official and informal sectors. As the country's migration rates rise, so does the country's labor market, affecting both the number of employees and the degree of skill and experience they bring to the table. Migrants play a significant part in the growth of Liberia's economy, especially in those areas of the country's economy that are seeing the greatest activity. Liberia is receiving a large influx of professional migrants. Those who are employed in the medical field, as well as those who work in STEM fields (science, technology, engineering, and mathematics), are just two examples of what is accessible. The numerous skills and capabilities of Liberia's migrant population, who hail from a wide range of cultural origins, contribute significantly to the country's overall economic value. According to the migratory statistics collected by the Liberia Institute of Statistics and Geo-Information Services in 2020, intelligent migrants who come to the country in quest of chances contribute to both the technological advancement and the research and development of the nation. After the war, Liberia's roads, for instance, were in terrible shape, which impeded the country's capacity to experience economic growth. Road connection is essential to the success of any state and has a substantial influence on the expansion of economic opportunities. As a result of Liberia's so-called "dark passage," the country's road network is in terrible condition. Due to the isolation of the country's rural areas from its urban centers, an increase in the number of people who went hungry was a direct result of this. People who lived in rural areas were unable to transport their goods to urban areas, which is the typical method by which agricultural goods are transported for commercial purposes. This was the core cause of the intense hunger that followed as a consequence. The World Bank estimated that Liberia's road network could cover 73% of the country's total population as of the year 2006, but they emphasized that road construction was still a concern. According to "Spatial Analysis of Liberia's Transport connection and prospective expansion," sixty percent of Liberia's roads in 2006, just a few years after the war, were unpaved and in disrepair. This has led to the death of individuals who commute on these poor roads, as well as a decrease in activity related to agriculture, according to the study. Things are starting to change since the economy of the nation is becoming better and more migrants are moving there in the hopes of finding work in a variety of fields, including those that make use of their technical expertise. Because of the aspirations of migrants and the improvements in their technical skills that resulted in the formation of these businesses, there are now many engineering companies functioning in the country. Thanks to their efforts, the nation now has a thriving engineering sector. Because of this, banana farms, for instance, won't have any challenges when it comes to transporting their goods to the market. Migrant workers in Liberia are contributing to an increase in employment opportunities in the country through the businesses that they run, and they are also sharing some of the knowledge and expertise that they have gained in their fields with the local population. Since 2006, all of the major road construction projects that have been finished or are currently under development have been completed by businesses in the construction sector that is based on migration. Roads among the many roads that make up this network are the Buchanan to Monrovia Highway, the Ganta to Monrovia Highway, the Ganta to Sanniquellie Highway, and the Monrovia to Robertsports Road Corridor. Companies in the construction industry that are owned by migrants of different nationalities include the Compagnie Saheliane D'Enterprise /CSE, which is owned by Senegalese, the BMC Group Construction Companies, which is owned by Lebanese, and the Chongqing International Construction Corporation, which is owned by Chinese.

In addition, the government has made the reconstruction of the country's infrastructure a priority ever since the Liberian civil war, which left much of it in a ruinous state. However, even though the skills of migrants are necessary for the development of roads, significant portions of Liberia still do not have roads, and many Liberians still do not have access to basic amenities such as water, healthcare, or power. Liberians would tell you that limited educational opportunities are the biggest obstacle on their way. They believe that if education is addressed first, then progress will be made in other areas. The educational system in Liberia is in a complete state of disarray. To put it another way, as a direct consequence of the prolonged political unrest, the quality of the educational system has significantly declined (Johnson, 2013). Since it gained its independence, Liberia has been beset by terrible natural disasters and horrific civil wars on the home front. As a direct result of this, the government of Liberia has made ensuring food security a higher priority than educational endeavors. The growth of the economy is accompanied by an increase in the number of employment opportunities that are available in every industry. Because there are not enough educated people in the country, it is impossible to fill any positions, whether they be technical or non-technical. Because of this, skilled migrants have a greater number of career opportunities available to them (Günther & Launov, 2012). It is anticipated that Liberia's educational system would ultimately catch up with the rest of the world and satisfy the expectations of the nation with the assistance of talented migrants. As of right now, the educational system in Liberia is in the process of being redesigned. It is essential to emphasize the services provided by professional migrants who are qualified to teach at higher education institutions and secondary schools to increase the likelihood of success for Liberia's young people. Because the majority of Liberians lack the human resource ability to assist in its restoration from its previous state of decay, education is now being rebuilt with the assistance of international institutions as well as migrants. This is because many migrants from across the globe have been able to take up residence and work in Liberia. As a direct result of this, Education is now being rebuilt. This was made possible by the assistance provided by international organizations in the process of reestablishing the educational system. UNICEF, the Netherlands, the United States of America, the European Union, and the World Bank are all making financial contributions toward the development of the education system in this country. It is essential to have the participation of migrants to move forward with this process. Several migrants who recently arrived in Liberia are currently teaching at various colleges and universities across the country, including the University of Liberia. These institutions are located in both rural and urban areas of the country. In this capacity, they make a significant contribution to the ongoing efforts of the United States government, which is an important ally to Liberia, and other international institutions to educate and train the next generation of leaders who are projected to fill in the human resource deceit in the years to come. Liberians who already possessed the skills necessary to instruct were also allowed to participate in additional training that was being provided. As a result of the contributions that migrants make to the education sector, it is anticipated that the country will experience a reduction in the number of human resource shortages in the years to come.

In addition, the growth of a nation's economy and the reduction of its level of poverty are both attributable to the nation's agricultural sector. Before the start of the civil war in 1989, the government of Liberia encouraged its people to "go back to the farm" in a very aggressive way. As a direct consequence of this, a significant number of the population chose to pursue careers in the agricultural sector. It was necessary to use massive vehicles to convey agricultural goods from the broad fields that were situated farther within the country to the metropolitan centers. Students spent their time away from school working on the farms of their families, friends, and other acquaintances when they were not required to attend classes. As a consequence of the

conflict, a great number of people were forced to abandon their farms, which resulted in the crops and other goods that had been abandoned becoming potential targets for theft as well as destruction. When the conflict became more dangerous, the primary concern of many farms was not farming; rather, they were worried about whether or not they would survive the war. A research project on the amount of poverty that exists across the nation was brought to successful completion by the Liberia Institute of Statistics and Geo-Information Services in August of 2008. The results of the study show that rural areas are, and will continue to be, particularly hard hit by poverty (Fofana, Boakai, 2009). The Participatory Poverty Assessment (PPA) research identifies various indicators of poverty. These markers include mentioning only a few instances, an inadequate food supply, and a limited or non-existent income. Seventyone percent of those who produced crops before the war are now living in poverty as a result of the conflict, as indicated by the findings of the survey. The battle was finally won in 2003, and since then, there have been efforts made to revitalize the agricultural industry. Agriculture, for instance, was a key component of the Liberian Government's Poverty Reduction Strategy, which was approved in the year 2008. The Poverty Reduction Strategy, which served as a kind of road map for the process, served as the compass by which the nation's economic recovery was navigated. In the hopes of assisting in the reduction of poverty and contributing to the development of the economy of the nation, the government has made it one of its priorities to invest more resources into the agricultural sector. Non-governmental organizations, which are abbreviated as NGOs in certain contexts, are assisting the government of Liberia in its attempts to boost agricultural production. Agricultural Cooperative Development International and Volunteers in Overseas Cooperative Assistance are two good examples of such groups. The same group goes by the acronyms ACADI and VOC, which stands for "Volunteers in Overseas Cooperative Assistance." The mission of the non-profit organization, which has its headquarters in the United States and works to foster economic growth in developing nations, includes the promotion of both food security and agribusiness as two of its primary areas of focus. This work is done to fulfill the organization's overall objective of fostering economic growth in developing nations. The effort known as Livelihood Improvements for Farming Enterprise (LIFE) is being led by ACDI and VOCA respectively. This program is intended to assist farmers in raising their standard of living by providing them with access to agricultural equipment and financing, teaching them how to increase their harvests, and teaching them new skills (Fofana, Boakai, 2009). A sizeable portion of the population of Liberia is unable to grow their food because they do not possess even the most fundamental agricultural expertise. Migrants are taking advantage of the opportunities presented by the agricultural sector to make investments in food production and to build the capacity of Liberian farmers. Not only do these migrants offer training courses for farmers in Liberia, but they also make recommendations for new policies that could facilitate the growth of the agricultural sector in the country as a whole. The ownership of farms and other agricultural assets in Liberia by migrants contributes to the maximization of the government's earnings from the agricultural sector. This contribution is made possible by the fact that migrants live in Liberia. Migration has had a substantial and positive impact, as seen by the growth and development of Liberia, which is yet considered a developing nation. Farmers in Liberia have seen a huge rise in their incomes over the last several years, mostly because of the support that migrants give them. Liberia is blessed with a sizeable quantity of fertile land that is well suited for agricultural purposes. This is in addition to the country's abundance of minerals and other natural resources. According to some estimates, the vast majority of Liberia's verdant terrain has not yet been developed to its full potential (Kattel & Sapkota, 2018). Those who are willing to leverage opportunities in the agriculture sector should take advantage of this wonderful opportunity, and a good number of migrants are already doing so. This is a fantastic opportunity that should be taken advantage of by those who are willing to leverage opportunities in the agriculture sector. According to the Liberian Ministry of Agriculture, this has had a direct impact on the country's ability to produce a greater amount of agricultural goods than it did during the war or immediately after it ended. If the opportunities that are available in Liberia are superior to the opportunities that are available in the migrants' home countries, then it would be beneficial for migrants to relocate to Liberia.

Natural resources abound in Liberia, including huge forests, mineral reserves, and the once-predominant commodity of rubber. These resources fueled the early economic prosperity of the nation before the war in 1989. Agricultural prospects are also abundant in the country. Mining is attracting the interest of an increasing number of financial backers from across the world (IMPACT, 2004). After the civil unrest in Liberia, all activity linked to mining was brought to a standstill, which had a huge effect on the economy of the country. As a direct consequence of this, the nation's

exports suffered as a direct consequence. As a result of the conclusion of the war, some significant businesses, such as Arcelor Mittal, a European Union Investment, China Union Investment, of course, for the Chinese people, MNG Gold, Aureus Mining Inc., and Turkish Bea Maintain, are now engaged in the mining of gold and diamonds. Not only do these multinational corporations pay taxes, but they are also investigating additional avenues through which they may be able to contribute financially to Liberia's economy. In addition, they are offering employment opportunities to both native Liberians and migrants, even though the employability level of migrants is relatively high. If a country does not have the appropriate level of technological expertise, then the abundance of natural resources that it possesses will not be of much use to the country. Since the end of the war, Liberia has been facing this challenge ever since it began. Therefore, businesses looked to engage Liberians who had experience in the mining sector; yet, a significant number of these Liberians lacked the skill sets necessary to be successful in the profession. Due to a lack of available workers, these businesses were forced to look for potential candidates in other countries to fill the open positions. In addition, it is believed that over 100,000 individuals are employed in the country of Liberia's artisanal mining business. The vast majority of these miners are undocumented migrants who concentrate on the extraction of gold and diamonds. The economy of Liberia benefits tremendously from their work, although they operate on an unofficial basis. According to the Liberia Extractive Industry Transparency Initiative, artisanal mining was responsible for 18 percent of all official mineral exports in 2015. This occurred in 2015. This makes the mining sector appealing to migrants, which is one of the factors that drive migrants to Liberia.

## Liberia's economic stability and how it attracts Migrants

Because of the state's worsening economic conditions during the war, Liberia's economy came to a complete halt and remained unmoving for the duration of the conflict. When the civil war broke out in 1989, there was a substantial decrease in investment and business-related activity. Concurrently, gross domestic product (GDP) plummeted, and the economy saw a collapse (Marchiori, Maystadt & Schumacher, 2012). The lack of strong commercial relations with the countries that bordered it had a severe negative influence on the economy. When compared to the United States dollar, the value of Liberia's national currency, the Liberian dollar, decreased by a large amount. Since it achieved its independence in 1847, Liberia has always

maintained the dual usage of the Liberian Dollar and the United States Dollar as its two official currencies. This is something that you may find interesting to learn (Kapiszewski, 2017). The tendency toward deflation started throughout the conflict, and it continued until 2003 when the war finally concluded. During Liberia's civil war, investors fled the country, which hampered the country's economic growth. During the time of the civil war, the Human Development Index placed Liberia at position 162 out of 169 countries, making it one of the least developed countries in the world. Liberia's gross domestic product (GDP) fell from 524.7 million US dollars to 54.5 million US dollars between the years 1987 and 1995. (Program of the United Nations for Development, 2005) It came about as a direct result of the war's catastrophic effects on the country's economy in general, including every sector of the economy. The economy has been brought back to life ever since the war came to an end. The HDI has shown year-over-year growth of more than 2 percent. The United Nations Development Program's Global Human Development Report ranked Liberia at a position that was three points higher in 2012 than it was in 2007. There are currently only 14 countries in the world, including Liberia, that have seen an increase in their human development index of more than 2 percent annually so far. As of the year 2013, the Human Development Index for Liberia was calculated to be 0.480, as stated by the United Nations Development Program (UNDP). According to projections made by the International Monetary Fund (IMF), Liberia's gross domestic product (GDP) will hit \$633 million for the first time in decades in 2022, marking a significant increase from previous years. As of the end of the year 2006, Liberia's total external debt was \$4.5 billion, which was equivalent to at least 800 percent of the country's GDP (Czaika & De Haas, 2014). Between the years 2007 and 2010, the nation's bilateral, multilateral, and commercial obligations were collectively repaid 222.9 million dollars.

You may find it interesting to learn that the Gross Domestic Product of the country has started to increase at a quicker pace. 2009 was a successful year for the country's agricultural sector, as well as for the country's exports of rubber and wood. In 2016, Liberia became a fully-fledged member of the World Trade Organization for the first time since 1997. This marked a significant milestone for the country. Since 2006, the amount of foreign direct investment in Liberia has totaled a record-breaking US\$16 billion, making it one of the countries in the world with the highest investment levels. The economy of Liberia is thriving as a result of recently signed concession

deals with several global firms (Boyle & Keith, 2014). According to the World Bank, Liberia's fiscal situation improved during the first five months of 2021 as a consequence of both a rise in revenue and a drop in spending. The overall revenue of \$249.3 million, including gifts and other income, was \$37.1 million less than the total expenses of \$286.4 million (1.1 percent of GDP). The new Public Financial Management Act mandates that Liberia begin using a fiscal year that corresponds to the calendar in 2022 (World Bank, 2021). As a consequence of this, Liberia's parliamentary assembly has approved a supplementary budget plan for the fiscal year commencing July 1, 2021, and concluding December 31, 2021. Revenues and grants are expected to equal \$429 million for the upcoming fiscal year, which begins on July 1, 2021, and ends on December 31, 2021, representing 12.7 percent of GDP. Seventy percent of this amount will originate from inside the country's boundaries. The overall budget forecast is \$458.2 million (13.6% of GDP), with current spending accounting for 60% of the amount. Donation-supported programs are included in this estimation. The special budget deficit is expected to be similar to 0.9 percent of GDP, with the gap financed by third-party loans (World Bank, 2021).

Liberia's GDP is expected to rise at an annualized pace of 4.9 percent between 2022 and 2023. The mining industry as well as the demand from other countries are anticipated to be the primary development drivers. We believe that as a result of these changes to the underlying infrastructure, the mining, agriculture, and construction sectors will all experience a rise in overall activity levels.

Several international companies have been granted concessions, allowing them to extend their operations in the iron ore and palm oil industries respectively. There is a correlation between the inflow of migrants and the investment in Liberia. The majority of Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) in Liberia is influenced by migrant labor. As a consequence of these changes, migrants are seizing the chance to launch new enterprises or expand existing ones to provide for themselves and their families. The relatively low cost of labor in Liberia is a valuable resource for the proprietors of these businesses. Migrants are motivated by the possibility of gaining a competitive edge in the business sector. Every business owner should strive to cut costs while simultaneously increasing earnings to the fullest degree that is practically possible. The cheap cost of production in Liberia's industrial base makes the nation more enticing to businesses who are considering relocating to the country. In Liberia,

migrants, particularly those of Lebanese, Chinese, and Indian descent, own and control a significant portion of the country's business sector. These variables affect Liberia's aspirations for economic expansion and stability (Van Hear, Bakewell & Long, 2018). Businesses in Liberia have greater room for expansion since the country's regulations and laws are not as stringent as those in other countries. To get an unfair edge, many migrants are willing to break the law in exchange for their contributions to the economy. As long as the issue is known as the "Brain Drain" continues, Liberia will be forced to come up with a plan for 2030 in which it intends to achieve economic benchmarks and objectives that would ensure the country's continued growth and progress. If it does not take place, Liberia's pace of growth will remain relatively unchanged. However, a significant number of Liberians who left the country during the violence have already made new lives for themselves in other nations and have no intention of going back. As a direct result of this, a large number of migrants are now looking for new locations where they may take advantage of new chances. It has been possible for the economy to deal with the challenges it is facing thanks to the use of human resources from all over the globe to make up for the shortage of human resources in the nation (Bozorgmehr, Roberts, Razum & Biddle, 2020).

The Liberia Institute of Data and Geo-Information Services (LISGIS) has offered its 2020 Liberia migrant statistics to the researcher so that they may write this thesis more effectively. These statistics will undoubtedly come in handy for this research. The statistics provided by LISGIS take into account the factors that contribute to labor migration into Liberia. These factors include the migrants' levels of education as well as work prospects in both the public and private sectors. The statistics that are offered by LISGIS take into consideration, among other things, the distribution of migrants around the globe in terms of nation and region. A growing number of migrants are making the move to Liberia in the hopes of providing themselves and their families with a better quality of life and a better chance for a higher quality of life overall. Turning to the Liberia Institute of Statistics and Geo-Information Services (LISGIS) for its data was necessary since the researcher was unable to go to Liberia to conduct a survey and collect data due to cost and time restrictions. The data were sent in response to the researcher's request for them. The graphs depicted in figures 1, 2, and 3 were created using the data from LISGIS 2020's migration project, and their interpretations are shown in those figures.

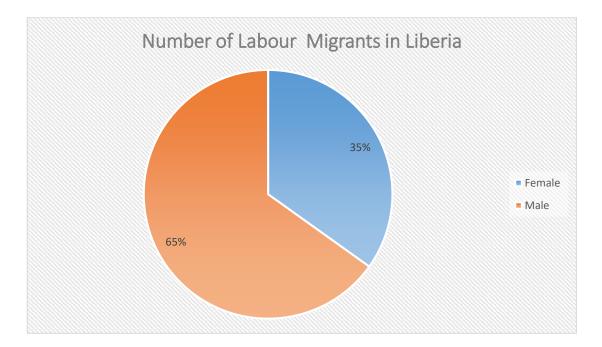
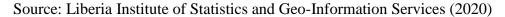


Figure 1. The number of Labour Migrants in Liberia by gender.



According to the data shown in the preceding figure, there are now 25,082 female labor migrants in Liberia, which corresponds to a proportion equivalent to 35 percent of the total number of labor migrants. The figure also indicates that 46,835 men in Liberia are labor migrants, which is comparable to 65 percent of the male population in Liberia. This suggests that Liberia will have 71,917 percent of the entire number of professional migrants in Liberia by the year 2020, which is the same as 100 percent of the total, and it is anticipated that this figure will continue to rise.

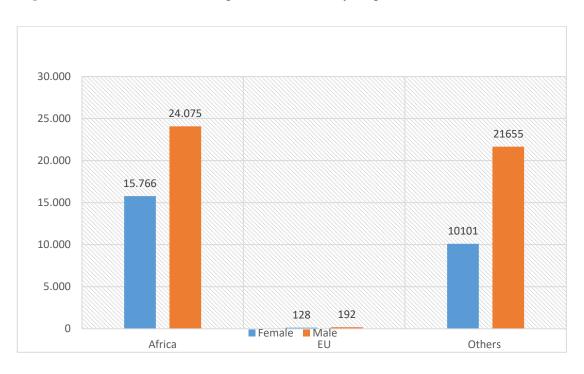


Figure 2. Number of Labour Migrants in Liberia by Region

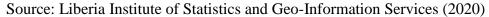


Figure two illustrates the overall number of skilled migrants in Liberia by region.

39,841 of the total 71,917 labor migrants in Liberia are from African regions. These migrants came to Liberia with a variety of professional expertise to take advantage of the opportunities in Liberia, particularly in the education, health, mining, and agriculture sectors, while also contributing to the development of the country. There are 24,075 men in this total, with 15,766 females making up the remainder of the population. This originates from several different nations that are used as sources, including but not limited to Benin, Burkina Faso, Cape Verde, the Ivory Coast, the Gambia, Ghana, Nigeria, and Guinea. According to the Liberia Institute of Data and Geo-Information Services 2020 statistics, a total of 320 professional migrants went to Liberia from the European Union. The European Union is a very major partner in Liberia. There are 192 males and 128 girls within the total quantity that was indicated. The overall number of migrants from other countries, including China and the United States, is 3,1756. There are 21655 male migrants and 10101 female migrants.

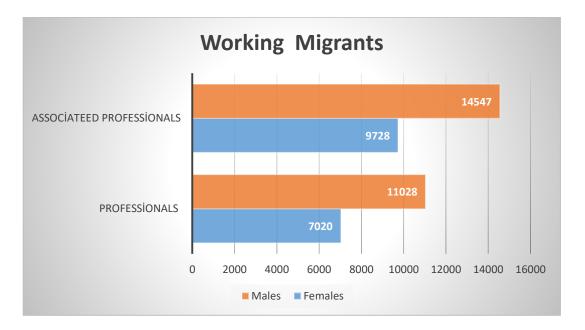


Figure 3. Number of Employed Migrants in Liberia (Private & Public Sectors)

Source: Liberia Institute of Statistics and Geo-Information Services (2020)

According to the Liberia Institute of Statistics and Geo-Information Services, the nation is home to two categories of labor migrants: professionals and associate professionals. This information is provided by the official statistics office of Liberia. They are employed in a wide array of industries, such as teaching, farming, information technology, mining, fishing, and medical care, among others. There are a total of labor migrants in Liberia, but 42,323 of them have found work there. The number of professionals makes up 18,048 of the total 42,323 employees, while the number of associate professionals makes up 24,272 of the total 42,323 workers. There are 11,028 male professionals, out of a total of 14,547 male associate professionals. Men make up 11,028 of the professionals. The total consists of 7020 full-time female professionals and 9728 full-time female associate professionals. They can find work in both rural and urban settings, which is convenient for them. There are a total of 71,917 migrants in Liberia, and 29,594 of them are company owners that employ locals and pay taxes to the Liberian government.

According to the findings of the study conducted by LISGIS, the key sectors in which Liberian migrants are engaged include the mining sector, as well as the education and business sectors, the health sector, and the cultural sector.

#### **Political Stability**

Liberia was the scene of two very violent and brutal civil wars that raged between the years 1989 and 2003. The period that Ellen Johnson Sirleaf served as president (2006-2018) was marked by relative calm in the nation. The political atmosphere in Liberia has seen tremendous improvement as of late, which is one of the most important factors in luring migrants to the nation so they may take advantage of the country's potential for economic progress.

As a direct result of this, the lawmakers in Liberia have enacted legislation that makes it possible for the nation to have a high rate of acceptance for migrants. The Senate and the House of Representatives make up the legislative branch of government in Liberia. This branch is responsible for making laws. The House of Representatives is led by the Speakers and members of the Legislature of the fifteen relevant counties, whilst the House of Senators is led by the Vice President. The National Election Commission aims to establish a voting system that would compile votes from electoral districts from which members of the House of Representatives have previously been elected and served a term of six years (Cetrez, Shakra, Wirman & Szalanska, 2018). Senators are elected to represent their respective counties in the Senate, and there are thirty senators total. Senate terms are nine years long, and senators are chosen directly by the people they represent. This sets senators apart from other types of elected politicians. The president is responsible for selecting new justices for the Supreme Court, and after making his selections, he sends his nominees to the Senate for confirmation. The circuits, the specialty courts, the magistrate courts, and the justice of the peace courts make up the four different judicial divisions that can be found in Liberia. The basic components of the legal system are comprised mostly of customary law and common law based on Anglo-American legal traditions (Hakizimana, 2021). An informal justice system exists alongside the region's traditional judicial institutions in the region's more rural areas. Residents are allowed to build a shared sense of justice and a collective trauma as part of the framework for the official outlawed's trial (Larik & Sahoo, 2018).

Migrants tend to congregate in areas with a high level of security. There are many different reasons why people decide to come to Liberia; nevertheless, one of the most significant of these reasons is the country's military structure. The majority of people believe that the Liberian military was responsible for a big portion of what led to the restoration of political freedom in the nation. Since the conclusion of the conflict in 2003, the United States has supplied major help in the form of both material and training assistance. The primary purpose of the military is to maintain the country's territorial integrity (Mvukiyehe & Samii, 2010). The United States of America exercises control over the military industry in Liberia to ensure that it continues to enjoy geopolitical and geostrategic dominance. The provision of military assistance by the United States to Liberia has assisted the armed forces of that nation in becoming more battle-ready. Following the end of the war, the engineering battalion of Liberia was instrumental in the process of rehabilitating the roads across the nation (Nair, Bhadra & Sahni, 2019). When it was enacted in 2003, UN Security Council Resolution 1509 established the United Nations' assistance for Liberia through its Mission. This help is provided by the United Nations. Ghanaian, Nigerian, Pakistani, and Chinese military and non-military people as well as citizens have traveled to the area to defend civilians from the danger presented by the Islamic State (IS) (Pailey, 2018). The NTG was successful in obtaining full backing from the international community in its efforts to establish a new Liberian military to stabilize the administration of the country.

Liberia has developed robust institutions, in addition to its military, to defend the rule of law. These institutions include laws safeguarding human rights as well as legislation against racism and other types of discrimination. We have a great deal of respect and gratitude for the contribution that Liberia made to the formation of an efficient criminal justice system. National police forces, such as the Liberian National Police, have shown that attempts are being made by the government to enhance national policy by emphasizing community-based policing (Urey, 2018). The National Police Training Academy is located in Paynesville, and it is responsible for the training and development of law enforcement personnel who are then deployed around the country (De Jong & Gardner, 2013). The security situation in Liberia is characterized by the presence of evidence of general lawlessness, in addition to the dangers posed by former fighters from the most recent civil war. To regain the trust of the general public and make it possible for civil authorities to rely on the acts of the police, the police force is undergoing reorganization per new guiding principles (Malmberg, 2021).

Rationally speaking, the economic feasibility of a desirable state is dependent on its ties with other countries. Because of this, it has gained acceptance among regional and global players, which has the effect of fostering more commerce and collective securitization. Since the beginning of the first and second civil wars in Liberia, the country's diplomatic ties with important players have been severed, which has harmed the country's foreign relations. After many decades of animosity, Liberia has successfully re-established positive relations with governments and international organizations on both a global and regional scale (Palattiyil, Sidhva, Seraphia Derr & Macgowan, 2021). The involvement of China in the process of rebuilding Liberia after the conflict made it possible, in large part, for there to be reconstruction in Liberia after the war. Guinea and Sierra Leone, who are Liberia's neighbors, have accused the two players of using military resources to back the rebels while using the funds for the development of the nation (Spilkin, 2011). The member nations of the Mano River Union have been able to put their conflicts behind them and maintain strong diplomatic ties despite their disagreements. After the conclusion of the civil war, the country was able to resume its ambitious development ambitions, which had been put on hold due to the ongoing conflict (Thompson, 2013).

According to the government of Liberia, there is a strong need for skilled migrants who can assist the Liberian government in formulating a plan to eradicate corruption from the society of the nation. A significant reordering of the political system in the nation took place as a direct result of the anti-corruption measures that were initiated in 2006 under the leadership of President Ellen Johnson Sirleaf (Marchiori, Maystadt & Schumacher, 2012). According to Deborah R. Malac, who served as the United States Ambassador to Liberia in 2014, the high cost of living in Liberia contributes significantly to the country's widespread problem with corruption. According to the Corruption Perception Index of the country in which Liberia is located, the country's level of corruption was ranked 3.3 in 2010, ranking it among the most corrupt countries in the world. The civil war in Liberia came to an end in 2003, which led to an improvement in the country's score on the corruption index in 2007, even though things were still in a poor state back then (Kapiszewski, 2017). Before 2007, the country had a score of 2.1 on the corruption scale. On the Global Corruption Barometer, the government of Liberia indicated that 89 percent of Liberians believed that bribery across the country was also at an all-time high. This finding was provided by the government's public-facing arm (Czaika & De Haas, 2014).

Finally, the religious, social, and cultural standards that were passed down from Liberia's Americo-Liberian ancestors serve as the bedrock upon which the country's dominant culture is built. The long history of textile and quilting arts in Liberia has made it feasible for the nation to have national fairs that showcase the talents of its people (Light, Bhachu & Karageorgis, 2017). The literary legacy of Liberian authors is lengthy and illustrious, and a significant number of their works have garnered acclaim on an international scale. Rice, cassava, fish, bananas, fruits, coconut, and sweet potatoes make up the majority of Liberia's diet (Srensen, 2012), in addition to a wide array of other types of food and drinks. The stew, which is a well-known meal in the region, is given its signature taste by using both habanero and scotch bonnet peppers. The food of Liberia is likewise a well-liked option due to the unique taste it has. As a result of Liberia's national team's qualification for the Africa Cup of Nations in both 1996 and 2002, the country has earned a reputation as a football powerhouse (Fischer, Martin & Straubhaar, 2021). Basketball is the nation's second most popular sport, behind only football, due to the large number of young people that like playing the sport in Liberia. Basketball is another common kind of recreational activity. The attention of Liberians of every political persuasion is captured by public events like national political rallies and foreign performances (Methmann & Oels, 2015).

## The skills and experience of more migrants are still required in Liberia.

Despite the significant progress made in Liberia by the Liberian government, international institutions, and influential state actors, including migrants, who play a primary role in keeping the country on track in terms of infrastructure and economic development, there is still more work to be done in the country. There is still a need for migrants who possess skills in areas such as energy, transportation, and communications. The following is a brief explanation of the circumstances in which each of these sectors can need migrants.

The Liberia Electricity Corporation is the country's only publicly accessible generator of electrical power. The Greater Monrovia District, which spans the whole of the country, is the sole area that this little grid serves. Additionally, power is produced by teeny-tiny generators that are privately owned, which contributes to the world's highest energy rates (Johnson, 2013). After the conclusion of the civil war in Liberia, there was a noticeable decrease in the country's total energy consumption. This change came about as a result. The democratically elected government of Liberia in 2018 under Ellen Johnson Sirleaf and with the assistance of the government of the United States of America repaired and expanded the Mount Coffee Hydropower Project. This project is a small hydropower plant that is unable to supply electricity to all of the surrounding communities in Monrovia's Capitol. The lowering of the price at which energy is purchased from countries in Africa that are geographically close by and from the West African Power Pool was the primary objective of this program (King, 2018). It is anticipated that the oil reserves that are located offshore in Liberia amount to more than one billion barrels, and the government of the nation has plans to work toward the discovery of these reserves. According to Günther and Launov (2012), governments have approved additional licenses to restore offshore blocks and improve the country's energy economy.

The country's transportation infrastructure is noticeably less developed than that of other countries and is restricted to highways and railroads. Across the nation, airports and harbors are undergoing renovations to enable the construction of pipelines for the transfer of oil, which will result in increased energy production (Bettini, 2013). In and around Monrovia, as well as the rest of the nation, public transportation in the form of buses, taxis, and motorcycles is quite popular.

In addition to the country's transportation industry, the country's communications infrastructure has been seriously damaged as a result of the civil violence in Liberia. Even while the number of people using mobile phones throughout the country is on the increase, traditional print and electronic media still have a way to go before they can compete (Haugen, 2012). The adult literacy rate in Liberia is also rather low, which is one of the primary reasons why so many people in the nation live in poverty. Because of the low literacy rate, public understanding of television, radio, and the newspaper is limited, which makes it difficult for these mediums to effectively engage with the people (Bertoli & Moraga, 2013).

A survey that was conducted by the United Nations in the year 2017 found that the literacy rate in Liberia was assessed to be 48.3 percent. On the other hand, this information was obtained from the country. Literacy rates throughout the nation can only improve if every kid in the country is allowed to get an education (Scheffran, Marmer & Sow, 2012). The educational infrastructure in Liberia is lacking in competent teachers, which restricts the number of opportunities for higher education in the country. A lack of proper physical and economic foundations is another factor that makes it difficult for Liberian colleges to function effectively. New programs at universities and community colleges have been introduced throughout the country since the end of the Civil War; nevertheless, recruiting qualified individuals to teach at these establishments continues to be a struggle (Simmons, 2016). The bulk of the focus within the educational sector is directed at non-public institutions of higher learning that provide students with college-level education.

According to projections made by the United Nations, the average life expectancy of Liberia's population will be somewhere in the neighborhood of 64.42 years in the year 2020. In addition to a high incidence of maternal mortality, the fertility rate of women is also rather high. Malaria, TB, and diarrhea are the most common forms of primary illnesses that are prevalent in the population. A high prevalence of HIV infection was also observed in the nation in 2007, indicating a significant shortage of both healthcare and sanitary services across Liberia (Abel & Sander, 2014). People in Liberia who need pricey medical care that is out of their price range cannot access the country's limited number of hospitals due to a lack of resources. During the civil war, the main healthcare facilities were destroyed, and contemporary medical data suggest that there is a big gap in the availability of physicians and nurses for the local population (Songsore, 2020). During the height of the Ebola virus epidemic in Liberia, the country's population saw a significant decline. The newly elected administration is making strenuous efforts to improve the nation's healthcare infrastructure by enforcing some strict new policies (Bastia, 2014).

In the fourth chapter of the thesis, the researcher does an in-depth investigation of the variables that cause people to migrate to Liberia. The conclusion and the recommendations that follow are the primary focuses of the fifth chapter.

#### **CHAPTER V**

#### **Conclusion And Recommendations**

This chapter emphasizes the variables that are increasing the possibilities of migration of people to Liberia along with the opportunities that can be realized in the future. The conclusion sums up the entirety of the research work from chapters one to four and recommendations are proposed to the government of Liberia to devise and improve policies that enhance improve government-migrant relations as well as policies that seek to provide a favorable environment for migrants since their presence impact the country a lot.

## Conclusion

Migration has been highly essential to Liberia from 2003 to the present, and the country's post-war progress is based on the contribution of migrants, notably labor migrants. As part of the attempt to better provide reasons for migration to Liberia, we explored the pull variables or the major reasons that attract migrants, in this research. In chapter 4, the most essential section of the study, we looked at the major variables that draw migrants to Liberia. New projects and the need for technical assistance are among these variables, as are a weak educational system, mining and agriculture, and economic prospects.

The basic premise of this study is that Liberia was immersed in a war from 1989 to 2003, which was substantially responsible for the exodus of highly educated Liberians to other countries. Liberians who have fled the country do not want to return to help the country recover its footing because of the situations in which they are currently living in their host nations. Because many Liberians lack the required skills to contribute to their country's post-war growth, there is a human resource gap that must be filled by labor migrants now that the state has returned to normality. These human resource deficits in vital areas, most notably education, health, mining, transportation, and business, are the pull factors that draw migrants, and they were researched as part of this thesis's endeavor to achieve an enviable outcome.

It might interest you to know that Liberia has benefitted from the contributions of migrants over time, especially given that the country has just recently emerged from a 14-year civil war. Through their efforts, they help to expand and improve key sectors such as education and health care, engineering and transportation, mining and commerce, and so on. Their continuous presence in Liberia has had favorable consequences over time.

Historically, Liberia, a West African country that has gone through some of the most difficult moments in its history as a direct consequence of a 14-year civil war that was devastating, is now recuperating from the conflict's impacts. Between 1989 and 2003, Liberia was the site of two very violent and devastating civil conflicts. The presidency of Ellen Johnson Sirleaf (2006-2018) was distinguished by relative peace in the country. The political climate in Liberia has recently improved significantly, which is one of the most crucial factors in attracting migrants to the country so that they may benefit from the country's economic potential. The legislative arm of Liberia's government created policies that led to the country's high proportion of acceptance of new migrants. During the Civil War, the country's physical infrastructure was almost entirely devastated. Despite this, the international community has made substantial interventions, including critical aspects such as the United Nations, the European Union, the African Union, the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), and the United States. The nation has returned to its prior level of normalcy, the economy is on the mend, and infrastructure spending has increased significantly, among other things. It is worth noting that the number of migrants in Liberia has increased significantly between 2003 and the present, and this figure is expected to climb further. The relevance of highly educated and experienced migrants crossing international boundaries is reaching new heights at an unprecedented pace in Liberia.

Migrants prefer to gather in places with strong security. There are several reasons why people choose to visit Liberia; however, one of the most important of these reasons is the country's military organization. The Liberian military was largely instrumental in the restoration of political freedom in the country.

Liberia welcomed 71,917 labor migrants between 2003 and 2020, according to the Liberia Institute of Statistics and Geo-Information Services (LISGIS). The bulk of these migrants came from North American nations, especially the United States, with others coming from the European Union, China, and other African countries. Migrants with a variety of skills are needed in Liberia to assist enhance education, healthcare, and other critical areas.

According to the conclusions of the LISGIS research, the mining industry, as well as the education and business sectors, the health sector, and the cultural sector, are the primary industries in which Liberian migrants are involved.

Furthermore, improved Liberia's economic prospects are directly responsible for a rise in the number of individuals traveling there in search of a job. Even though Liberia's economic condition is unclear, the expectations for transformation and high goals established for 2030 provide migrants who are contemplating relocating to Liberia hope. If Liberia is to sustain its degree of civic stability, there is an urgent need to find solutions to the problems surrounding its future. The economic harm caused by the civil war's social turmoil is being progressively addressed via the process of stabilizing Liberia's rural towns and villages. Local governments' engagement in attempts to improve the economy and repair the country's infrastructure is expanding at an alarming pace. A nation's infrastructure is critical to the country's overall prosperity. A positive economic perspective is critical for the post-war rebuilding initiatives now underway in Liberia. Migrants are increasingly flocking to Liberia to reap the economic perks that come with working in a developing nation. The Liberian government's objective is to help talented migrants find jobs in the nation, where they may contribute their knowledge to the growth of both the private and public sectors. Furthermore, the government is working hard to restore cities and towns to their former glory to develop new commercial prospects.

According to International Organization for Migration statistics, poor countries constitute the eventual destination for one-third of all international migrants (IOM). The majority of migrants work in some capacity, either officially or informally, and the kind of job they have in their new home nation is strongly proportional to their level of education and experience. Migrants, like Liberians, work in both the public and commercial sectors, and their contributions to the development, construction, and maintenance of the country's infrastructure are significant. The contributions that migrants make to Liberia, particularly the investments that they bring, are critical to the country's economy.

It is normal in Liberia to witness an increase in the proportion of persons working simultaneously with rapid economic progress. Furthermore, once migrants come into the nation, the workforce increases in size. An increase in the number of migrants in Liberia would boost the country's average income, but the potential effect would be much bigger. There is a chance that population growth caused by migration may benefit economic models by making specific sectors of the economy more efficient at higher production levels. Although this depends on the pre-existing circumstances and the characteristics of the migrants, in general, the higher the production volume, the less input is required per unit of output. This is because increasing production volume leads to more effective resource use. The researcher believes that the Liberian economy, which is the main draw factor for migrants, would be able to develop more swiftly as a result of greater labor migration, allowing workers to become more specialized and fill shortages in the workforce. Liberia's economic success is more likely to be driven by migrant workers than by the country's indigenous population. This is due to Liberia's indigenous population's inability to meet the demands of the state's human resource deficiency. In a word, Liberia is reaping the most benefits from migration and will continue to do so in the foreseeable future.

**Note:** Following is a chapter-by-chapter breakdown of the information provided in the study:

We focused on the history of the study, as well as the technique that was employed, as well as the relevance of the research, and the contribution that is made to the subject of migration, in the first chapter of the thesis, which is an introduction to the study.

Chapter: This chapter comprises an introduction to the fundamental principles as well as a Literature review that provides a comprehensive examination of the relevant research and contributions performed in the last ten to fifteen years. This research's conceptual and theoretical framework featured debates on migration and other topics that are important to the thesis's argument.

In Chapter 3, the historical backdrop of Liberia as a nation was discussed, as well as the obstacles it has experienced over the years, as well as the historical elements of global and West African migration. Global migration poses a huge issue for the governments that stand to benefit economically from the entry of migrants seeking better chances in developing countries. Migrants are increasingly choosing developing nations as a destination since several pathways may be pursued to better one's social position once there.

The researcher discusses the elements that promote migration to Liberia in detail in Chapter 4. Technical development and new projects are among these components, as are the state's undeveloped education system, agricultural investments, mining, and economic prospects. The key reason driving migration to Liberia is the country's demand for professional migrant skills, which are discussed in this chapter.

### **Re-Statement of Research Aim and Objectives**

The goal of this study is to investigate why there has been a rise in the number of migrants who migrate to developing nations. The number of migrants who migrate to developing countries has been increasing. The country of Liberia was chosen by the research, in particular, to serve as a focal point. Liberia is a country that has a lot to offer in terms of the resources that it has. Significant investments are being made across the board, including in the country's economic climate and business environment, as well as the agricultural sector. Diamonds and wood are only two of the many natural resources that are abundant in Liberia, a nation that seems to be on the approach to achieving economic progress. A huge number of migrant laborers are drawn to Liberia due to the country's rich landscape and agreeable temperature. The nation of Liberia, located in West Africa, served as the principal focus of this study.

The researcher carried out this research to get to the heart of the reasons why migrants wish to relocate to developing countries. The examination took into consideration Liberia, which is located in West Africa, as well as the economic, social, environmental, and political factors of the country. The recent improvement in the economy is a major driving factor behind the increase in the number of people migrating to Liberia. Liberia, which can be found in West Africa, is an important country that has allowed its citizens to engage in the social, economic, and integrated value creation processes (Thadani & Todaro, 2019). According to the findings of this study, Liberia has emerged as an increasingly desirable location for people seeking to migrate from all over the world. In light of the responses to the research questions, it can be reasonable to declare that the goals of the study were accomplished.

## Recommendations

In Chapter 5, the researcher placed the final touches on the thesis. The Liberia case study is utilized as a jumping-off point in this chapter, and numerous possible solutions are explored and presented based on the results of the research on the key drivers supporting migration in West Africa, notably in Liberia. There has been a significant influx of migrants, the majority of them are labor migrants who have assisted Liberia in its recovery efforts after its 14-year civil war. As a result, Liberia is required to ensure that the following conditions are met: their working conditions, which are related to their migration status and employment rights; their level of integration into society, particularly in terms of social protection; and their level of integration into Liberia's economic environment, which is related to business cycles and long-term growth prospects.

Because migration is so vital to Liberia's economy, the following advice should be taken into account. Because of changes in the job market, the Liberian government must reconsider its migration strategy. Because of the current state of affairs in Liberia, migrants have a window of opportunity to migrate there, both economically and socially. Similarly, the Liberian government may pursue policy interventions to reduce barriers to investment and the development of new firms. Furthermore, there must be no bias towards migrants of any type. The Liberian government is responsible for ensuring that migrants' rights are adequately respected. Migrants have a huge influence on the economies of the nations where they settle because of the resources they bring with them. The Liberian government must prioritize the protection of migrants' rights and the abolition of racist and discriminatory behaviors in the nation. Furthermore, the Liberian government must prioritize the process of integrating migrants. The techniques used by Liberia to integrate migrants into society are riddled with substantial issues. If not addressed, this would impair both Liberia's social cohesion and economic prosperity. Furthermore, as soon as migrants arrive in Liberia, a complete set of regulatory mechanisms must be put in place to ensure their safety. Local governments' roles in this process should be stressed, and they should be educated on the importance of migrant labor. As a result, Liberia's labor market should be strengthened, and agreements should be struck to acknowledge migrants' efforts and the influence they have had on Liberia. The Visa Process should also be evaluated by the government since it has the potential to reduce migration costs for Liberian work migrants. This would be advantageous to the nation as a whole.

Furthermore, the Liberian government should seek to improve the employability of both migrants and native-born Liberians to lessen the level of prejudice that exists in the country towards the latter group. In terms of career prospects, migrant workers outweigh Liberians born in the country. To put the following recommendations into action, the Liberian government must also encourage migrant workers to establish enterprises inside the country. When it comes to starting a business or investing money, the government should eliminate as many hurdles as possible for migrants. Due to the controversial nature of land ownership in Liberia, the bulk of the country's migrant population is unable to engage in agricultural operations due to a lack of enough acreage. The government should try to remedy this problem. Furthermore, I propose that the Liberian Constitution be revised to eliminate the section that forbids citizens of other nations from getting naturalized.

Ultimately, investigating migration entails accumulating a significant quantity of information from a variety of various sources, such as censuses and other types of administrative surveys, which were difficult to get throughout this research. According to the researcher, researching Liberia was challenging due to a lack of meaningful data, which the government should enhance. The researcher who did this study on Liberian migration concluded that this data might help other academics overcome the hurdles they face while doing research in Liberia.

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## Appendices

# Appendix A

# Turnitin Similarity Report

Pekeleh Gbuapaye-The Root Causes of Migrant's Attraction to Developing Countries: A Case Study of Liberia-West Africa

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# Appendix B Ethics Committee Approval



**BİLİMSEL ARAŞTIRMALAR ETİK KURULU** 

19.07.2022

Dear Pekeleh Gbuapaye

Your project "The Root Causes of Migrant's Attraction to Developing Countries: A Case Study of Liberia-West Africa" has been evaluated. Since only secondary data will be used the project it does not need to go through the ethics committee. You can start your research on the condition that you will use only secondary data.

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Direnç Kanol

Rapporteur of the Scientific Research Ethics Committee

Direnc Kanel

**Note:** If you need to provide an official letter to an institution with the signature of the Head of NEU Scientific Research Ethics Committee, please apply to the secretariat of the ethics committee by showing this document.