

NATIONAL YOUTH GOVERNMENT DIALOGUE

Closing the Gap: Building Trust Between Young People and Government



YOUTH DEVELOPMENT | GOVERNANCE | OPPORTUNITY

NRF Manager Inspires Young Liberians at Launch of National Youth-Government Dialogue



Monrovia City Hall | August 12, 2026

LEAD STORY

MONROVIA, LIBERIA - August 13, 2026: The Manager of the National Road Fund of Liberia (NRF), Mrs. Joseta Neufville-Wento, has encouraged young Liberians to remain disciplined, intentional, and committed to their professional development as they prepare to contribute meaningfully to national development.

Mrs. Neufville-Wento made the statement on Wednesday, August 12, 2026, when she addressed a cross-section of young people at the official launch of the National Youth-Government Dialogue, a flagship initiative of the Federation of Liberian Youth (FLY).

Held at the Monrovia City Hall in observance of International Youth Day, the event was organized under the theme: "Closing the Gap: Building Trust Between Young People and Government."

The dialogue was established as a continuing platform where young people can engage government officials directly, ask questions, share ideas, identify challenges, and collaborate on practical solutions affecting their lives and communities.

Purpose, Preparation and Opportunity



Mrs. Joseta Neufville-Wento listens during the interactive youth-government dialogue at Monrovia City Hall.



**Be disciplined
and intentional
about your
professional
development.**

- MRS. JOSETA NEUFVILLE-WENTO
Manager, National Road Fund of Liberia

Mrs. Neufville-Wento, who served as the initiative's maiden guest, urged young people to approach their education, careers, and leadership responsibilities with purpose and consistency.

She stressed that career advancement requires preparation, continuous learning, integrity, and a willingness to accept responsibility.

During an interactive question-and-answer session, the NRF Manager discussed the relationship between road financing and youth development. She highlighted how roads influence young people's access to education, employment, healthcare, markets, businesses, and other economic opportunities.

She explained that the work of the National Road Fund extends beyond financing road maintenance. Improved connectivity can expand opportunities for young entrepreneurs, reduce transportation difficulties, strengthen access to public services, and support inclusive national development.

Mrs. Neufville-Wento also encouraged young Liberians to take advantage of internships, mentorships, and professional-development opportunities. Reflecting on her career journey, she said she benefited because someone recognized her potential and was willing to take a chance on her.

She pledged to continue supporting young people through the NRF S.T.E.A.M. Internship Program, which provides practical workplace experience, strengthens professional skills, and prepares participants for future careers.

ROADS CONNECT PEOPLE TO OPPORTUNITY

Education | Employment | Healthcare | Markets | Enterprise

Building Trust Through Open Engagement



Young Liberians participate in the launch of the National Youth-Government Dialogue.

Mrs. Neufville-Wento emphasized that institutions must deliberately create opportunities for young people to learn and grow. At the same time, she challenged young beneficiaries to demonstrate discipline, humility, commitment, and a willingness to learn whenever such opportunities are presented.

She applauded the Federation of Liberian Youth, under the leadership of its President, Mr. Ernest Duku Jallah, for launching the National Youth-Government Dialogue and creating a constructive platform for meaningful engagement between young citizens and public officials.

The NRF Manager pledged the institution's support for the initiative and expressed the Fund's willingness to participate in future editions of the dialogue whenever possible.

She described open engagement with young people as essential to building public trust, strengthening accountability, and helping government institutions better understand the expectations and concerns of Liberia's youthful population.

The launch brought together young people, youth leaders, government representatives, and other stakeholders. Participants shared experiences, raised questions, and proposed ways public institutions could become more accessible and responsive to young Liberians.

KEY MESSAGES

- **Discipline:** Build consistency into education, work, and leadership.
- **Preparation:** Keep learning and be ready when opportunity comes.
- **Integrity:** Accept responsibility and earn public trust.
- **Access:** Roads connect young people to schools, jobs, markets, and services.
- **Opportunity:** Internships and mentorships help convert potential into performance.

NRF S.T.E.A.M. INTERNSHIP PROGRAM

Practical workplace experience, professional skills, and career readiness for young Liberians.