Côte d'Ivoire Situation update CIV+5

In Brief..

••• An estimated 500,000 IDPs in and around Abidjan; Access to IDPs is a major concern;

- Twenty-two implementing partners are currently assisting UNHCR activities in Saclepea;
- In view of the imminent rainy season in Liberia, UNHCR is deploying all resources to accelerate the transfer of some 70,000 to refugee camps and relocation communities.
- Some 2,000 Ivorian assisted in neighbouring countries (Guinea, Ghana, Togo, Mali, Nigeria, Niger, Benin, Senegal, Burkina Faso, Guinee-Bissau);

MAIN HIGHLIGHTS ON COTE D'IVOIRE

On 15th March, Alassane Ouattara sent a message to all lvorian nationals, urging his supporters as well as Laurent Gbagbo's, and all people involved in the fighting, to accept the African Union decision and the results of the presidential elections and to work together to rebuild the country.

On 15th March, UNOCI sent a message to all UN staff advising against any movement in Abidjan and other areas of the country after 19:00hrs and to take appropriate measures to leave the office at 17:30hrs at the latest. UNOCI reminded staff that driving UN marked vehicles increases the risk of serious attacks by the "Young Patriots" and other groups.

On 14th March, AFP World News reported that armed opponents of Gbagbo advanced through Abidjan on Monday, frightening residents. Forces Nouvelles (FN) loyal to Ouattara continued to move south through Abidjan from their power base in the northern suburbs, meeting fierce resistance from Gbagbo loyalists. Fire from heavy weaponry and machine guns rang out in the suburbs of Yopougon, Adjame and Koumassi for the first time since the stand-off began.

On 11th March, the fighting in Moyen-Cavally was reported to have shifted from the Toulepleu area to the town of Bloulequin on the Guiglo axis and heavy fighting was still reported along the main road. According to UNMIL reports, the FN were facing resistance from Forces de Défense et de Sécurité, who were protecting the main access route to Guiglo.

On 11th March, Mr. Choi, UNOCI special representative in Côte d'Ivoire, clarified his organization's role, explaining that UNOCI's mandate is essentially to protect the civilian population and the Golf Hotel and to certify the result of the presidential elections.

IOM is currently undertaking a repatriation of Mauritanian nationals at the request of the Mauritanian authorities. According to the Mauritanian representation in Côte d'Ivoire, 40,000 Mauritanians live in Côte d'Ivoire, including 10,000 in Abidjan.

MAIN HIGHLIGHTS ON LIBERIA

Transfers from border communities to transit centres and way stations continued, with refugees moved from Buutuo and Gblarlay to New Yourpea and from New Yourpea to the Bahn camp site.

Pre-registration for relocation of refugees on Buutuo axis is ongoing. Several border villages hosting refugees are being targeted for relocation to New Yourpea, including Buehlay, Teahplay-Zeilay, Frolay, Nyor-Display, Gomaplay, and Buutuo.

Before 24th February 39,784 refugees had been individually registered by UNHCR. On 24th February fierce fighting in western Côte d'Ivoire forced the population to flee, resulting in a drastic change in the refugees' movement and a significantly greater influx into Liberia. Consequently, UNHCR Liberia immediately shifted to rapid emergency registration. At this point, registration figures (rapid emergency registration) may include multiple registrations as a result of back-and-forth movements between Liberia and Côte d'Ivoire. The exact registration figures will be confirmed once refugees have been transferred away from the border. Enhanced individual registration is currently taking place at the transit centres and way stations, allowing vulnerable cases to be identified more fully. There have been some 46,000 overall registered new arrivals since 24th February (updated 16th March).

The number of refugees registered in Bahn Camp stands at 1,391 individuals and acceleration of transfer to Bahn camp is ongoing; in parallel a total of 754 individuals were transferred to Karnplay transit centre.

The Area Security Management Team (ASMT) held a meeting on 11th March, in which UNMIL confirmed the deployment of a BANBATT contingent to Beo Yolar (central axis) and the establishment of a permanent presence in Beatuo (Southern axis), located 4 kilometers from New Yourpea.



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COTE D'IVOIRE

Due to the attacks in Yopougon on 14th March, UNHCR staff members were unable to come to the office. The displaced population is estimated at roughly 500,000 persons, and the security situation prevents normal UNHCR operations. Despite this situation, aid distribution and assistance are ongoing in Abidjan, mostly through local implementing partners, although they are themselves challenged by the insecurity that limits their access to IDPs. UNHCR and its partners have nevertheless been able to reach over 10,000 IDPs and have so far identified some 18,000 people in groups located in 25 sites, as well as 18,997 living with host families.

Humanitarian partners such as the Red Cross and Caritas continue to discover IDP groups in and around Abidjan, Akoupé, Yamoussoukro, and Jaqueville in southeast and east-central Côte d'Ivoire.

Aid distribution scheduled this week in villages surrounding Abidjan has been postponed as a result of the new fighting in Abobo and Yopougon, which are the only access routes to these villages.

Clashes reported in the Moyen Cavally region have again resulted in population movements within the region, with residents of Toulepleu, Bloulequin and surrounding villages having fled to Liberia. It has been reported that several elderly or disabled people have been locked in their homes by their families. Unfortunately, at this stage humanitarian actors do not have access to this population in need of food and non-food items.

On 12th March, 16 tons of NFIs, consisting mainly of blankets, mats, tents, mosquito nets, and soap, were moved to Abidjan from storage in Daloa.

On 10th March, with the support of WFP, Caritas Guiglo started food distribution to IDPs located in Duékoué and Nazareth sites. Rations consisted of rice, soybeans, salt, oil and beans.



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LIBERIA

Protection and assistance at Border Communities

Identification of vulnerable groups among new arrivals has been a challenge, in light of the large numbers coming across the border since 24th February. Some 270 children have been identified so far as possibly being unaccompanied or separated.

On 11th March, border monitoring visits and discussions with authorities led to reports of several hundred refugees a CRS continued the construction of family shelters in day returning to Côte d'Ivoire. Some of them stated that Beatuo, which has been identified as a relocation commuthe Forces Nouvelles passed on messages to the popula- nity. A total of 40 family shelters were completed as of 14th tion stating that the situation has calmed down and that March and 35 more are being completed. Due to the people could return.

Site Planning / Shelter / Water Sanitation

A WASH coordination meeting was held on 10th March in Saclepea with Mercy Corps, DRC, UNHCR, EQUIP, UNI-CEF, MOH, Oxfam GB, MSF, and ARC. A number of issues were discussed, particularly the evaluation mission to be undertaken this week in Grand Geddeh, the water and sanitation gaps identified in Gborplay, the wash supplies to be airlifted, and the possibility of acquiring a supply of PUR water treatments.

Bahn Camp

arrival. refugees are individually registered and receive a relocation exercise, as several scenarios were reported. In hot meal. They are allocated their shelter, are briefed about Gblarlay, the host community is apparently advising available services, and are informed of rules and procedu- refugees not to relocate to Bahn. In Douplay, the host res. NFIs and food are distributed the next day.

mother and child are doing well.

Before the arrival of the 14th March convoy, a total of 404 family shelters have been constructed so far in Bahn camp, consequently pre-registered. of which 331 are occupied, 40 are ready for occupation, and 33 are at different stages of construction.

192 registered school-aged children are attending school in Yourpea to Bahn camp. In addition, spontaneous arrivals the camp. Save the Children has identified additional continued in New Yourpea and Bahn camp site. teachers among the refugee population.

53 children are registered in the Early Childhood Development Centre within the camp.

A weekly coordination meeting is held in the camp with representatives from the refugee community to discuss the possible employment of refugees, food distribution, education and health issues.

Garwee Camp

75 casual daily labourers from EFA partner have brushed 6 acres of land and partially cleaned the transit centre area. Leveling of the site will have to be done manually. Due to bad road and bridge conditions, bulldozers cannot access the site. In addition, a reliable system for draining rainwater is necessary because the site is located on a slope of 15-20 degrees.

Buutuo Axis

limited accommodation available at Beatuo town, the refugees have moved into the shelters on their own initiative.

UNHCR met with town chiefs of Toweh Town and Zoatuo to reconfirm their availability as relocation communities. No refugees are hosted in those communities at the moment.

In New Yourpea a brief meeting revealed that some 1,000 refugees are being hosted within the community. Refugee representatives and staff based there will consult with the refugee population to identify those willing to go to the camp or to the relocation communities.

Transfers from the border communities to New Yourpea and Bahn camp are operating in parallel with the sensitization and usual work to prepare upcoming relocations. The mass information campaign is being refined in order to Transfers of refugees continued on a daily basis. Upon improve overall communication and understanding of the community mentioned that their limited resources are being strained by refugees waiting for their families to join them The first birth occurred in Bahn camp on 15th March. The before relocating to the camps. In Biaplay, some 400 refugees were reportedly ready for relocation to Bahn camp, while in Teahplay-Zeilay 271 individuals expressed their interest in relocating to the camp and were

> Relocation took place from Frolay, Dinplay, Glarlay, Teahplay and Bouyealay to New Yourpea and from New

New Yourpea 1 (football field)

Fencing of the way station is ongoing, and roofing and the dining area are completed.

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Gborplay axis

Karnplay 1

Transfers continued from Gborplay axis and from the border area to Karnplay.

On 15th March, a refugee leadership structure was set up to involve refugees in the management of the transit centre, On 10th March, UNHCR Saclepea received from Monrovia and various sub-committees were created to contribute to the delivery of assistance by the sector partners.

The water treatment system is now available at the bladder **Education** and other distribution points. CIPORD will now undertake sanitation activities handed over by DRC. DRC has completed the construction of the well and has fitted the hand pump. Two functional hand pumps are available in Karnplay transit centre in addition to the surface water treatment station.

Zorgowee

facilitate transit of refugees out of the border area. 50 casual daily labourers have brushed the site, and the design of the site has been finalized.

DRC started to produce and stock 10,000L of potable water. Work continues on the distribution platform, bladders, and blocks of latrines.

Food Security / Distribution of Food and NFIs

Between 14th and 15th March, 2972 individuals received a two-week food ration in Buutuo and 1438 were served in 17 additional trucks (10 reconditioned and 7 redeployed) Dinplay. Food distribution is ongoing in Buutuo while it is now completed in Dinplay. In addition distribution started in Gblarley on 16th March and should start on 18th March in on 6 April. Nyor Display.

mass information campaign was stepped up to increase the which were allocated and distributed. refugees' awareness of the distribution site. Much greater

numbers of refugees have now started to come to the distribution site.

In order to speed up the food distribution, NRC recruited an additional 20 food distribution assistants who were trained on registration, process and data collection relevant to food distribution, information campaigning, and the relocation exercise.

new stocks of NFIs (blankets, sleeping mats, mosquito nets and kitchen sets) as well as 2,200 tents on 17th March.

Assessment of basic school infrastructures is undertaken by IRC and SC UK in the selected host communities. Identification of teachers is ongoing in the 15 host communities and 13 volunteer teachers have been identified in the Northern axis and nine in the Southern axis.

Health

Activation of the transit centre has started on 10th March to UNFPA organized a sensitization session in Karnplay 1 to discuss HIV prevention and response.

> UNHCR monitored referrals to three hospitals where 32 persons were admitted.

Logistics/Infrastructure

Road conditions between Buutuo and New Yourpea remain of great concern to the infrastructure working group, even though many parts of the road between Saclepea and New Yourpea have improved as a result of the work done by partners.

arrived on 1st March in Monrovia, and 3 more arrived mid-March from Accra. 4 more are due to arrive from Germany

18 light vehicles procured locally for IPs were received and In view of the initially low turn-out at the distribution, the fitted with winches. Radios were set up in 11 vehicles

Twenty-two implementing partners are currently assisting UNHCR activities in Saclepea in various sectors as mentioned below:

LIST OF IMPL	IST OF IMPLEMENTING PATNERS FOR EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE TO IVORIAN REFUGEES – (updated 11.03.11)						
AGENCY	SECTOR	ACTIVITIES	LOCATION				
NRC	Camp Management	Food and NFI distribution, site planning, camp management and shelter construction	Bahn Camp and Garwee				
IRC	Health, Education, Community Ser- vices	Preventive and curative health care services; Community services in host communities including care arrangements and follow up for UAC/SC	Loguatuo Axis; Central axis and Northern axis				
EQUIP	Health, SGBV	Preventive and curative health care services to refugees and host communities; Prevention/response including legal and psychosocial assistance (identify, refer and fol- low up on cases of SGBV)					

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LIST OF IMPLI	EMENTING PATNERS FOR EMERGEN		GEES – (updated 11.03.11)		
CHESS	Health	Emergency medical referrals and HIV/AIDS and malaria awareness	Loguatuo, Buutuo and Gborplay Axis		
DRC	WATSAN and Infrastructure	Construction of hand pumps, latri- nes and provision of emergency water facilities including bladders and water trucking; and rehabilita- tion of roads and bridges	Buutuo; refugees hosting communi- ties on Loguatuo Axis		
ARC	Shelter	Construction of community-based refugee shelters	Relocation villages on Loguatuo Axis		
LRRRC	Protection	Monitoring	Bahn Camp and community		
EFA	Environment	Site clearing, tree planting, drai- nage construction and establish- ment of wood lots, production of eco-stoves	Bahn Camp, Karnplay, Zorgowee, New Yourpea, and Garwee Camp		
SC-UK	Education; Community Services	Provision of primary education services. Care arrangements and follow-up for UAC/SC. Community service activities in host communi- ties. Psycho-social counseling, family tracing and re-unification, child protection assistance for peo- ple with specific needs.	Bahn Camp and host communities (Buutuo Axis)		
CHILDFUND	WATSAN	Construction of hand pumps and latrines	Refugees hosting communities in Buutuo Axis		
ACF	WATSAN	Construction of hand pumps, latri- nes and provision of emergency water facilities including bladders and water trucking	Bahn Camp		
OXFAM (GB)	WATSAN	Construction of hand pumps and latrines and provision of emergen- cy water facilities including blad- ders and water trucking	Garwee Camp Relocation villages on Buutuo Axis All locations		
CRS	Shelter	Construction of community-based refugee shelters			
LSL	Transport/Logistics	Transport/Logistics			
CARITAS	Agriculture, Education, Health and Shelter	Agriculture/livelihood support, pri- mary education for refugee chil- dren, medical referral and shelter assistance for Ivorian refugees	Zwedru, Grand Geddeh County		
EFA	Environment	Drainage system construction in Tienii local integration area	Tienii, Grand Cape Mont County		
LRRRC	Protection	Land negotiations, adjudication and processing of appeal cases, etc.	Nationwide		
LSL	Logistical and Operational support	Maintenance of operational vehi- cles, trucks, warehouse, other as- sets, etc.	Nationwide		
SEARCH	Protection, livelihood Education	Camp management, livelihood and education assistance for pre- emergency Ivorian refugees	Saclepea, Nimba County		
CHILD FUND	Community Services	Medical, livelihood and assistance for ex- SL refugees with special needs	ex-SL Cape Mount		
LIURD	Shelter	Construction of shelters for ex-SL refugees	Cape Mount/Bomi		
UNVs	Protection	Registration, data processing, etc.	Nationwide		

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Movement of population in affected countries – overall picture

	Guinea	Burkina Faso	Mali	Ghana	Togo	Benin	Niger	Nigeria	Senegal	Guinea Bissau
Refugees / Asylum seekers	971	22	171	455	371	30	31	63	28	15

GUINEA

Both urban and rural refugees are now recognized on a prima facie basis by the Guinean government.

A total of 971 Ivorian refugees have been registered thus far (including the 843 individuals from N'Zerekore and 128 individuals from Conakry). The number of UAMs in Kouankan II remains at 71.

On 15th March, 41 Ivorian refugees were transferred from Bossou and N'Zerekore to Kouankan II refugee camp.

WFP is willing to donate a mill to grind maize in order to assist the refugees at Kouankan II. Several meetings were held with UN agencies, implementing partners, and ONUDI to develop a project proposal. The proposal was then discussed with the refugee committee, which appears willing to undertake the project. A suitable location to build up the mill warehouse has been identified and construction work is under way.

BURKINA FASC

country.

A field mission took place with the authorities to identify camp sites in case of a potential influx, and preparation on

the ground with the government, partner agencies, and UN agencies present on the ground has started. The Ouaga transit centre, which should shelter some 2,500 persons, is under construction.

A field mission is being planned with the CONASUR, UN partners and agencies to analyze the situation in depth and assess the construction work to be done at the reception centre, transit centre, and camp levels.

Following an SMT meeting held on 9th March, UNDSS has been requested to issue security updates on a regular basis to be shared with all UN staff. In view of the current social instability due to the public demonstrations against the authorities following the death of a student, UNDSS stressed that UN agencies must be equipped with VHF radios in order to be included in regular radio checks.

HAN

A total of 455 Ivorian asylum-seekers have been registered thus far (including the 222 persons who arrived between 11 and 13 March).

A significant increase in the number of new arrivals has **DURKINA FAO** A total of 22 asy-lum seekers have been registered thus far. Registrations d'Ivoire. Between 11th and 13th March 2011, a total of 222 are mainly reported in the Centre, East and South of the Ivorian asylum seekers were recorded by UNHCR in the western region, including 11 unaccompanied minors.

> Elubo, the major crossing with Côte d'Ivoire, continues to experience heavy inflow of Ivorians due to the banking



A total of 22 asv-

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their country after completing their transactions.

A cholera outbreak is affecting several areas in Ghana such as Greater Accra Region, Central Region and Eastern Region, including Gomoa East district. However, the majority of the Ivorian asylum seekers are located outside these areas.

As an outcome of the UNCT meeting held on 3rd March, heads of agencies have proposed support in various sectors requiring an interagency response.

Protection The steady flow of new arrivals in the western region is posing a challenge. Initially, the majority of new arrivals were staying in urban Accra, but with the increasing number of new arrivals in western region, accommodation has become a challenge.

Eagle Star Reception Centre is the closest location from Elubo border and has been activated since 12th March 2011. 165 individuals are presently accommodated in 30 tents.

Education and Child Protection

UNICEF is planning to have a family tracing workshop for separated and unaccompanied children in the Brong Ahafo and Western regions. The workshop will be supported by UNHCR in the coming weeks.

Bilateral preparation meetings on education were held with UNICEF. Priority areas covered included temporary learning space structures, recruitment and training of teachers, learning materials, and mapping of partnership.

Site Planning/NFIs/Supply Construction the CAMARCI, emergency measures should be taken by work at Ampein Refugee Camp is moving ahead with the construction of the reception area and the distribution point.

closures in Côte d'Ivoire. These people usually return to The electricity needs have been assessed and the work on initial latrines and bathing sheds is now completed. The work on the boreholes is planned to start by mid-week.

> The need to immediately start setting up tents in order to be able to transfer people from the Eagle Star centre in Elubo is under discussion with the government.

> Additional guantities of NFIs have been transferred to the western region including 300 tents from the regional stockpile. 1,000 additional tents are in the pipeline.

> Food Security/Nutrition UNHCR is purchasing food quantities to address the needs of the Ivorian asylum seekers and will be able to provide support to a maximum of 5,000 individuals. Beyond this limit, the implementation of the MOU between UNHCR and WFP will need to be triggered.

> **Water/Sanitation** In the event of an influx from Côte d'Ivoire, UNICEF confirmed that a Water Sanitation international staff member would be posted within a week to manage this sector. In addition, an inter-agency meeting was held at UNICEF office with NADMO, CHF, World Vision, Plan, Community Water and Sanitation Agency and Ghana Health Service to discuss the potential Ivorian influx and the cholera outbreak affecting the country.

> While the situation remains calm at the various entry points, a total of 171 Ivorian asylum-seekers have been registered thus far (122 households). The construction of the Zegoua transit centre is still underway.

> On 12 March 2011, a convoy of 13 buses transited through Mali, transporting 801 Mauritanians who had left Côte d'Ivoire to go back to their country of origin. According to the government of Mali to repatriate the Malians living in Côte d'Ivoire in extreme stressful conditions.

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NIGERIA

A total of 63 asylum seekers have

been registered thus far. Four new arrivals, all members of the Doula ethnic group fleeing the Abobo suburb, were registered during the reporting period.

UNHCR met the General Manager of the Lagos State Emergency Management Agency in order to discuss the temporary use of the LASEMA camp in Ikorodu in the case of and influx of Ivorian refugees. The camp currently occupied by Nigerians affected by the flooding could be emptied as soon as another site in Igando is identified for the Nigerian population. In that case, the Lagos State Emergency Management Agency might be able to support UNHCR activities.

TOGO

A total of 371 refugees have been registered thus far. So far there are no reports of UAMs.

Basic NFIs and rice were distributed to new arrivals and health care is guaranteed to Ivorian refugees.As of 9th March the Ivorian asylum seekers are being recognized on a prima facie basis. The president of the CNE requested an extraordinary session on 15th March to notify UNHCR in writing of this decision.

On 9th March a meeting was held with the President of Togo and his government in which the issue of the Ivorian asylum seekers was discussed. The President called on the government and Togolese citizens to support the lvorian population.

REGIONAL COORDINATION

OCHA announced the reopening of the EHAP for Côte d'Ivoire (CIV) and neighbouring countries. The first EHAP was launched in January 2011. Projects are being agreed at the country level amongst agencies and submitted by the region. UNHCR is lead agency for the Protection and Camp Coordination Camp Management (CCCM) in coordination with IOM and Shelter/NFI clusters in Côte d'Ivoire. UNHCR is sector lead for Protection and Multi sector in neighbouring countries. The approval of projects is due in he coming days.

Following the teleconference with the DSRSG/HC Côte d'Ivoire and Regional Directors organized by UNOCHA on 8th March, UNHCR Dakar shared an update on the political, security and human rights context in Côte d'Ivoire. The rise of violence in Abobo and in the West prompted the UN to take measures to move staff. Staff listings are being reviewed on a permanent basis. However, clusters and coordination between clusters were reported functioning at that time.

The Senior Regional Telecommunications officer was on mission to Saclepea to increase and streamline communications in the area of operations for UNHCR and partners. One of the main objectives was to review and upgrade the overall VHF network to ensure that all partners have access to the UNHCR network.

Funding

Donor	Liberia	Côte d'Ivoire + 4	Total (USD)
Canada	500,501		500,501
CERF	2,255,737		2,255,737
EC/ ECHO	686,813		686,813
ECOWAS	500,000		500,000
Germany	340,599		340,599
Ireland	544,959		544,959
Private donors Canada		2,935	2,935
Rep. of Korea	200,000	100,000	300,000
Switzerland	637,767		637,767
USA	7,800,000	2,500,000	10,300,000
TOTAL(*)	13,466,376	2,602,935	16,069,311

(*) Additionally, in December 2010 Luxembourg donated USD 87,015 to UNHCR's initial response to the emergency in Côte d'Ivoire

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