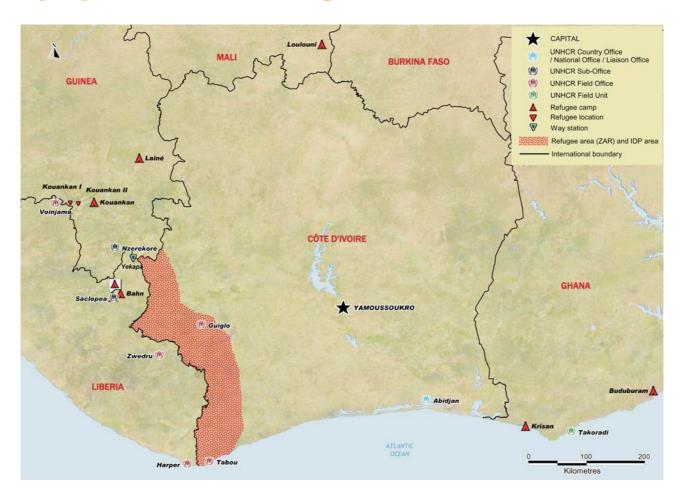
# CÔTE D'IVOIRE



# Operational highlights

- At the end of 2010, there were almost 565,000 persons of concern to UNHCR in Côte d'Ivoire, including some 25,600 Liberian refugees.
- More than 1,100 birth certificates were distributed to refugees, with more than 800 of them given to Liberians.
   The Office supported the Ivorian authorities by paying for the costs involved in processing 7,300 civil registrations.
- As a result of clashes related to the 2010 presidential elections, some 18,000 Ivorians fled from Côte d'Ivoire to Ghana, Guinea and Liberia. A similar number of people were displaced within the country and were assisted by UNHCR.

# Working environment

Initially scheduled for 2008, Côte d'Ivoire's presidential elections eventually took place in October 2010, and were followed by a run-off contest in late November between incumbent President Laurent Gbagbo and opposition candidate Alassane Ouattara. Although more than 300 international observers were deployed to assess the fairness of the elections, the results were disputed. The ensuing political stalemate gave rise to tensions between the rivals' supporters which escalated into violence, driving some 18,000 Ivorians into exile in neighbouring countries and displacing a similar number internally.

This situation put additional strain on UNHCR's programme in the country, which was already providing protection and assistance to more than 56,000 people of

#### **Persons of concern**

Type of Population	Origin	Total	Of whom assisted by UNHCR	Per cent female	Per cent under 18
Refugees	Liberia	25,600	25,600	54	49
	Various	700	700	44	40
Asylum-seekers	Various	260	-	34	26
IDPs	Côte d'Ivoire	514,500	30,000	-	-
Returnees (IDPs)	Côte d'Ivoire	22,600	-	-	-
Returnees (refugees)	Various	50	50	-	-
Total		563,710	56,350		

#### Côte d'Ivoire

concern. This number included more than 25,000 Liberian refugees, and some 30,000 IDPs who had been displaced following civil strife in 2002. Under the overall leadership of the Humanitarian Coordinator in Côte d'Ivoire, UNHCR assumed its responsibility as cluster lead for camp coordination and camp management, emergency shelter, and protection.

Prior to the political upheaval in 2010, UNHCR had been exploring options for durable solutions for the remaining Liberian refugees in the country, in anticipation of the invocation of the cessation clause for this group, planned for the end of 2011.

# Achievement and impact

• Main objectives and targets

UNHCR's objectives in the country were in line with its regional priorities, which were to build fair and effective asylum systems, find durable solutions—including local integration—for Liberian refugees, support the reintegration of Ivorian returnees and facilitate the return of IDPs. In an effort to meet these objectives, UNHCR worked closely with national and international development organizations as well as with the Government, to ensure the sustainability of its programmes and to prevent statelessness.

#### Favourable protection environment

 UNHCR helped people at risk of becoming stateless to acquire or receive confirmation of their citizenship. The Office held information sessions on the problem, created a website providing information on the subject, and trained civil servants. UNHCR distributed some 1,100 birth

- certificates to refugees, and further supported the authorities with the purchase and distribution of some 7,300 civil-registration forms, during the year.
- Approximately 870 Liberian refugees were repatriated in 2010, while more than 22,600 IDPs returned to their places of origin. The latter group included some 550 individuals who were assisted by UNCHR with transportation and basic relief items.

#### Fair protection processes

- UNHCR assisted the National Eligibility Committee. Some 240 asylum claims were lodged with the Committee, which granted refugee status to 67 people in 2010. In view of the impending invocation of the cessation clause for Liberian refugees, UNHCR held discussions with the Government on the manner in which the clause would be applied, as well as on possible alternatives for those who wished to stay in Côte d'Ivoire. In cooperation with the Government's Service d'Aide et d'Assistance aux Réfugiés et Apatrides, UNHCR undertook the verification and profiling of refugees in Côte d'Ivoire during the last quarter of 2010.
- In cooperation with the Ministry of Justice, UNHCR helped those who needed to prove their citizenship to avoid becoming stateless. A telephone hotline was established to provide counsel to such individuals and guidance on the administrative process to acquire identity documents. In 2010, the hotline received on average some 20 calls per day, peaking at some 50 a day in September and October. The Office researched all relevant domestic legislation related to citizenship rights and produced for distribution to the relevant national institutions.



information to facilitate the acquisition of documentation and fulfilment of rights by affected individuals

#### Security from violence and exploitation

- UNHCR sought to ensure that any legal decisions taken
  by the authorities on refugee matters would not be in
  violation of individual refugees' rights. It also sought to
  put mechanisms in place to help them respond to and
  mitigate the risk of sexual and gender-based violence.
  Training sessions on the issue were organized for security
  actors in Abidjan, Guiglo, Tabou and Bouaké, as well as for
  staff from national institutions and partners. IDPs who
  survived sexual and gender-based violence were provided
  with medical assistance and psychosocial support.
- Following the disputed elections in November, UNHCR increased protection monitoring, particularly in the western part of the country where the number of internally displaced people was growing rapidly.

#### Basic needs and services

- UNHCR ensured that refugees living in Côte d'Ivoire
  were provided with adequate health care. More than 1,000
  medical consultations were held in Abidjan. The capacity
  of the hospital in Guiglo, in the west of the country where
  most refugees lived, was improved through increased
  staffing and the provision of equipment. All refugees
  living with HIV and AIDS were given medical assistance.
  UNHCR continued to organize awareness-raising
  sessions on HIV and AIDS.
- All refugee children had access to education. UNHCR
  helped increase the capacity of the school in Tabou by
  building six furnished classrooms, and provided the
  school in Guiglo with equipment.

#### Community participation and self-management

 To improve the livelihoods and self-reliance of refugees, UNHCR implemented agricultural projects in the Guiglo area that benefited some 2,200 people. Discussions were held with financial institutions on the development of microcredit opportunities for refugees and a revolving fund was made available for urban refugees.

#### **Durable solutions**

- UNHCR supported the local integration of refugees, in particular those from Liberia, through self-reliance and livelihood projects. Advocacy efforts led to a reduction of 50 per cent in the administrative costs related to naturalization applications. A total of 869 Liberian refugees were repatriated with UNHCR assistance, which included transportation, medical screening and hot meals. Thirty-nine refugees were resettled.
- UNHCR assisted some 550 IDPs to return to their places
  of origin in the western part of the country. The
  monitoring team in the western region reported that 874
  Ivorian refugees returned spontaneously from Guinea.
  Furthermore, 31 Ivorian refugees were repatriated from
  Benin, the Gambia, Morocco, Mauritania and Senegal
  with UNHCR's assistance.

#### Logistics and operational support

 In view of the repatriation movements from Guinea, UNHCR supported the maintenance and construction of roads and bridges on the Danané-Guinea axis.

### Constraints

The Government's availability to address refugee-related issues was reduced in the run-up to the elections, while the disturbances following the polls affected UNHCR's ability to operate in the country and led to deterioration in the humanitarian situation. Xenophobic rhetoric against Liberians increased sharply during this period, increasing the vulnerability of Liberian refugees.

#### Financial information

Since 2007, UNHCR's annual requirements for its programme in Côte d'Ivoire have been under USD 10 million. The introduction of the comprehensive needs assessment in 2010 led to a significant increase in the budget, which stood at some USD 15.5 million in 2010. Based on the contributions received, the Office's level of expenditures amounted to USD 7.3 million in 2010.

## Organization and implementation

The operation in Côte d'Ivoire was managed by the Country Office in Abidjan and two field offices in Tabou and Guiglo. In total, 67 personnel were employed, with a majority of national staff members.

# UNHCR's presence in 2010

Number of Offices	3
□ Total Staff	67
International	6
National	38
UNVs	22
Others	1

# Working with others

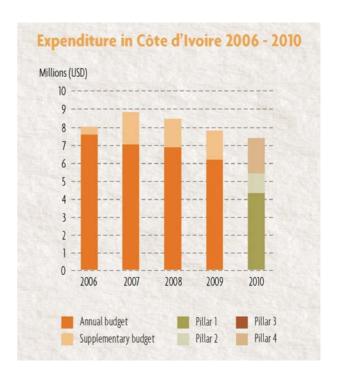
UNHCR worked with five implementing partners in the country. It coordinated closely with other UN agencies and humanitarian actors on contingency plans for further displacement in the region.

# Overall assessment

Good progress had been made with regard to UNHCR's objectives in Côte d'Ivoire prior to the November elections, in particular the search for durable solutions. There was also a steady advance in helping people at risk of becoming stateless obtain civil documentation. However, the political stalemate and the violence that followed the disputed elections has radically changed UNHCR's operational environment in the country, and its impact will be felt in the immediate future.

# Côte d'Ivoire

# Partners Implementing partners Government: Service d'Aide et d'Assistance aux Réfugiés et Apatrides, Ministry of Justice NGOs: Association de Soutien à l'Auto-Promotion Sanitaire Urbaine, Caritas, Danish Refugee Council, Afrique Secours et Assistance Operational partners WFP, UNICEF, UNDP, IOM, FAO, UNAIDS, UNFPA, WHO, ONUCI



# Budget, income and expenditure in Côte d'Ivoire | USD

	PILLAR I Refugee programme	PILLAR 2 Stateless programme	PILLAR 4 IDP projects	Total
FINAL BUDGET	9,967,876	2,120,000	3,385,000	15,472,876
Income from contributions	3,385,838	0	87,015	3,472,853
Other funds available	896,057	1,080,737	1,822,702	3,799,495
TOTAL FUNDS AVAILABLE	4,281,895	1,080,737	1,909,717	7,272,348
EXPENDITURE BREAKDOWN				
Favourable protection environment				
International and regional instruments	0	41,400	0	41,400
National legal framework	84,770	49,738	29,904	164,411
National administrative framework	0	0	21,996	21,996
National and regional migration policy	30,249	0	0	30,249
Prevention of statelessness	0	107,660	0	107,660
Co-operation with partners	28,872	0	29,757	58,629
National development policies	39,174	0	0	39,174
Public attitudes towards persons of concern	40,073	0	29,904	69,977
Environmental protection	0	0	29,281	29,281
Subtotal	223,138	198,798	140,841	562,777
Fair protection processes and documentation				
Registration and profiling	359,425	0	1,016	360,442
Fair and efficient status determination	76,525	0	0	76,525
Family reunification	48,272	0	0	48,272
Individual documentation	48,461	59,196	33,919	141,576
Civil status documentation	22,724	142,390	41,827	206,941
Subtotal	555,407	201,586	76,762	833,755

	PILLAR 1 Refugee programme	PILLAR 2 Stateless programme	PILLAR 4 IDP projects	Total
Security from violence and exploitation				
Community security management system	0	0	51,376	51,37
Gender-based violence	59,057	0	34,757	93,81
Protection of children	109,256	50,986	56,687	216,92
Access to legal remedies	51,337	59,067	0	110,40
Political participation	0	0	27,654	27,65
Subtotal	219,650	110,053	170,474	500,17
Basic needs and essential services				
Food security	5,669	0	0	5,66
Water	25,939	0	0	25,93
Shelter and other infrastructure	90,279	0	0	90,27
Basic domestic and hygiene items	36,083	0	24,011	60,09
Primary health care	250,082	0	64,612	314,69
HIV and AIDS	85,034	0	37,182	122,21
Education	125,666	0	0	125,66
Sanitation services	6,291	0	0	6,29
Services for groups with specific needs	95,438	0	26,578	122,0
Subtotal	720,481	0	152,382	872,86
Community participation and self-management				
Participatory assessment and community mobilisation	78,529	0	51,374	129,90
Community self-management and equal representation	70,973	0	0	70,97
Self-reliance and livelihoods	145,176	0	62,890	208,06
Subtotal  Durable solutions	294,678	0	114,264	408,94
Durable solutions strategy	28,771	0	0	28,7
Voluntary return	141,093	0	245,536	386,63
Rehabilitation and reintegration support	41,124	0	213,242	254,36
Resettlement	21,650	0	0	21,65
Reduction of statelessness	0	85,221	0	85,2
Subtotal	232,637	85,221	458,779	776,63
External relations				
Donor relations	24,875	0	38,184	63,05
Resource mobilisation	24,875	0	0	24,83
Partnership	24,875	0	0	24,87
Public information	70,696	91,009	38,184	199,88
Subtotal	145,320	91,009	76,368	312,69
Logistics and operations support				
Supply chain and logistics	617,272	100,562	207,011	924,84
Programme management, coordination and support	662,311	201,480	358,091	1,221,88
Subtotal	1,279,583	302,042	565,103	2,146,72
stalments to implementing partners	610,999	92,028	154,745	857,77
mpromenting partners	4,281,895	1,080,737	1,909,717	7,272,34

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Income from contributions includes indirect support costs that are recovered from contributions to Pillars 3 and 4, supplementary budgets and the "New or additional activities – mandate-related" (NAM) reserve. Contributions towards all pillars are included under Pillar I.