

Ghana

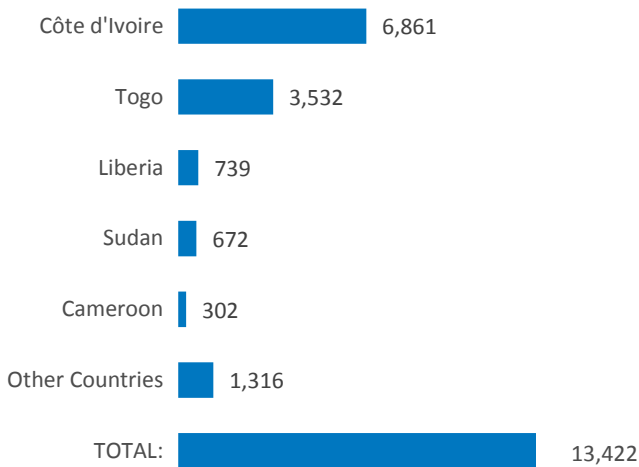
Sept/Oct 2019

185 Ivorian Refugees assisted to return home on voluntary repatriation

17, 000 exercise books and stationary distributed by UNHCR to refugee and host community children in camp schools.

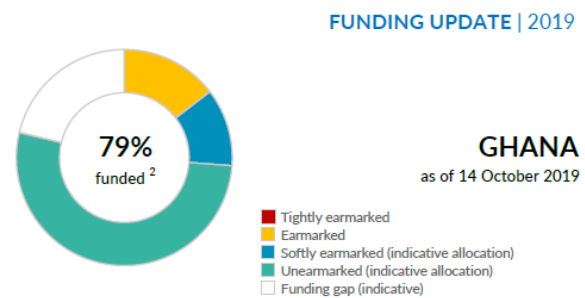
99 Refugees in camp equipped with marketing skills to enable them effectively market their products and services for improved sales.

POPULATION OF CONCERN (AS AT OCTOBER 2019)



FUNDING (AS AT OCTOBER, 2019)

UNHCR's financial requirements for 2019 is **\$7.1 million**



USA – Earmarked Contribution – USD 1,200,000

UNHCR PRESENCE

Staff:

30 National Staff
02 International Staff
08 UNOPS

Offices:

01 Country Office in Accra
01 Field Office in Takoradi



Participants at the Regional Meeting in Accra



UNHCR Country Representative, Ms. Esther Kiragu flagging-off the LuquluQu Step for Safety walk

Working with Partners

- **Government Partners:** The Ministry of the Interior, the Ghana Refugee Board (GRB), and other relevant government departments and ministries such as Ghana Education Service, Ghana Health Service, Ghana Immigration Service, Commission for Human Rights and Administrative Justice, and Ghana Police Service to mention a few.
- **Partners:** Christian Council of Ghana (CCG), National Catholic Secretariat (NCS) and the Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA).
- **UN Agencies:** UNFPA, IOM, UNAIDS and UNICEF.
- **Private Sector Partnerships:** UNHCR Ghana is exploring expanded partnership opportunities with the Private Sector and other development partners.

Main Activities

Protection

- A Regional Coordination meeting, as part of a roadmap to achieving durable solutions for Ivorian refugees was hosted by UNHCR Cote D'Ivoire and UNHCR Ghana in Accra. The meeting brought together Representatives and key Protection staff from the new Regional Bureau for West and Central Africa and UNHCR Representations in Mali, Cote d'Ivoire, Mauritania, Liberia, Togo and Guinea together with their various government partners. The meeting took stock of the implementation of the strategy on promoting repatriation and reintegration of Ivorian refugees which was developed in November 2018.
- UNHCR and the Ghana Refugee Board completed a verification exercise for Togolese refugees in the Volta Region of Ghana. Verification is a headcount where officials get to verify and update individual information and biodata of persons of concern. Earlier in the year, verification exercises had been carried out for various refugee populations living in refugee camps and other locations in Ghana.
- 707 Persons of Concern (POCs) received multipurpose cash grants for the third quarter (July – September 2019) in all four refugee camps as well as Urban PoCs in Accra. The cash grant initiative which helps POCs meet their basic needs targets extremely poor households as determined by a wealth-ranking exercise in 2016. Currently about 2,800 individuals from different refugee populations are beneficiaries.
- Ghana's Deputy Minister of the Interior together with the Chairman and Executive Secretary of the Ghana Refugee Board represented Ghana during UNHCR's Executive Committee (ExCom) meeting in Geneva. ExCom consists of representatives from UN Member States who meet annually to review and approve the Agency's programmes and budget, advise on international protection and discuss a range of issues. They also attended the High Level Event on Statelessness where Ghana made a pledge to accede to the Statelessness Conventions by 2022.
- Within the framework of joint programming, UNFPA through its partner Purim African Youth Development Platform organized a Business and Leadership Fair in September where 20 refugee girls from some selected secondary schools were engaged in a mentoring session.

Livelihoods

99 refugees from Egyekrom, Ampain and Krisan Camps have participated in a day's workshop on marketing. The training which was organized by UNHCR Partner ADRA in collaboration with UNHCR was aimed at building the capacity of POCs in marketing to be better able to improve their products and services, effectively market and promote their products for improved sales.

Solutions

- Within the reporting period, 185 Ivorian refugees were assisted to return to their country of origin on voluntary repatriation. The convoy included 2 former Ministers of President Gbagbo's regime. Between January to October

this year, 554 Persons of Concern from different nationalities have been assisted to return home. This included 536 Ivorians, 13 Togolese and 5 Central Africans.

Education

- UNHCR has supplied school children at the primary level in the 4 refugee camps with learning materials to commence the academic year. The distribution of learning materials to the refugees and host community children is to ensure that there is zero discrimination among the refugee children and host community children. A total of 17000 exercise books and other stationery were supplied to school children.
- The Varkey Foundation, a Foundation which is into improving the standards of education has donated some educational materials including books to Egyekrom and Ampain Refugee Camp Schools as the new school year begins. Varkey in 2017-2018 partnered UNHCR to introduce the use of technology and innovation to teach children numeracy and literacy through their Teach to Reach Remote Classroom (TRC) project in Ampain and Egyekrom Camps. In the past Varkey has also offered technical support through capacity building for teachers in Ampain and Egyekrom.

Health

- Three public health practitioners from the St Martin de Porres hospital paid a working visit to the Krisan camp to educate 20 pregnant and lactating mothers on best practices during the antenatal and post-natal stages. The pregnancy school is an initiative of the St Martins de Porres hospital to sensitize pregnant and lactating mothers on best practices

Private Sector Partnerships

- On Saturday September 28, 2019, UNHCR through its LuQuLuQu campaign organized the second edition of Step for Safety walk in Accra. The walk attracted some members of the Diplomatic Community, Government, UN Heads of Agencies, Private Sector Partners, Local Celebrities in Media and the Arts and the general public. The climax of the event was a simulation of the refugee journey by some refugees from Ampain Camp after the walk. The aim was to raise awareness on the worsening refugee crisis within the continent and to raise funds in support of the over 25 million forcibly displaced persons in Africa. UNHCR Representative in Ghana, Ms. Esther Kiragu urged participants to continue to support families forced to flee while calling for people to see refugees, not as passive recipients of aid, but rather as agents of development who, directly and indirectly, make contributions to the local economy in the areas where they live.

SPECIAL THANKS TO THE MAJOR DONORS OF UNRESTRICTED REGIONAL FUNDS IN 2019

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LINKS

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