

LIBERIA



UNHCR's presence in 2012

Number of offices	4
Total staff	128
International staff	17
National staff	93
JPO staff	2
UNVs	15
Others	1

| Overview |

Operational highlights

- The volatile security situation confronting Côte d'Ivoire in 2012 slowed the voluntary repatriation of Ivorian refugees from Liberia. At the end of the year, some 65,500 Ivorian refugees remained in the country, well above the planned figure of 30,300.
- The overall security situation in Liberia grew stable in 2012, owing to the joint efforts of the Liberian authorities as well as the United Nations peacekeepers in Liberia and Côte d'Ivoire.
- Within the context of the Regional Comprehensive Strategy, including the implementation of the cessation clause for Liberian refugees, more than 29,000 Liberians were transported home and assisted with cash grants.
- More than 6,000 Ivorian refugees were assisted to return to Côte d'Ivoire.
- In line with the Government's policy of improving international protection and security along the border, almost 10,000 refugees, mainly from Côte d'Ivoire, were relocated from the Ziah Camp and other sites where they lived with host communities to the Solo camp and the camp built on the site of the former Prime Timber Production company (known as the PTP camp).

People of concern

The main populations of concern in 2012 were: some 65,600 Ivorian refugees who fled violence in their country following the post-2010 election crisis; and Liberian returnees who fled the civil war in the 1990s and for whom UNHCR launched the organized voluntary repatriation programme in 2004. Some 155,500 Liberian returnees were assisted by UNHCR between 2004 and 2012.

Partners

Implementing partners

Government agencies:

Liberia Refugee Repatriation and Resettlement Commission

NGOs:

Africa Humanitarian Action, Care International, Caritas Liberia, Child Fund International, Community Health, Education and Social Services, Danish Refugee Council, Ieda Relief, International Emergency and Development Aid, International Rescue Committee, Logistics and Services Liberia,

Medical Emergency and Relief Cooperative International, Medical Emergency Relief International, Norwegian Church Aid, Norwegian Refugee Council, Save the Children - United Kingdom, Special Emergency Activity to Restore Children's Hope

Operational partners

NGOs:

OXFAM United Kingdom, Finnish Church Aid

Others:

UN Mission in Liberia (UNMIL), UNICEF, UNV, WFP, WHO

Type of Population	Origin	Total	Of whom assisted by UNHCR	Per cent female	Per cent under 18
Refugees	Côte d'Ivoire	65,600	65,600	54	54
	Various	340	340	47	34
People in a refugee-like situation	Various	10	10	25	-
Asylum-seekers	Various	50	50	4	-
Others of concern	Former refugees from Sierra Leone who are assisted for local integration	1,600	1,600	-	-
Returnees (refugees) ¹	Côte d'Ivoire	17,600	17,600	53	-
	Guinea	5,500	5,500	53	-
	Ghana	4,700	4,700	53	-
	Sierra Leone	1,000	1,000	53	-
	Various	600	600	53	-
Total		97,000	97,000		

¹The demographic breakdown of returnees refers to the total 29,400 Liberian returning refugees.

| Report on 2012 results |

Achievements and impact

Favourable protection environment

- To support voluntary repatriation and relocation activities in Maryland County, a new transit centre was constructed in Harper Town to host Liberian returnees from Côte d'Ivoire.

Fair protection processes and documentation

- UNHCR worked with the Government of Liberia and other governments in the region to find appropriate solutions, such as the provision of civil documentation for those Liberian refugees who wished to remain in their host countries. A Liberian delegation undertook biometric passport vetting missions to four countries of asylum, where they processed some 750 applications.
- UNHCR completed the biometric registration of refugees in Maryland/River Gee, Nimba and Grand Gedeh counties.

Security from violence and exploitation

- The construction of a police station and barracks in PTP camp allowed law enforcement officers to be deployed in the camp from December 2012.

Basic needs and essential services

- All camp-based Ivorian refugees had access to emergency shelter and were issued maintenance kits. In addition, more than 94 per cent of tents were upgraded to temporary shelters made of wooden poles and covered with plastic sheeting.
- With regard to health assistance in the camps, nearly 90,000 patients received treatment, 7,000 children under the age of five had their growth monitored and 30,000 refugees benefited from HIV and AIDS awareness-raising activities and testing.
- With the support of the Ivorian and Liberian ministries of education, a primary school leaving exam was successfully conducted for 92 per cent of Ivorian refugee children.

Durable solutions

- In light of the invocation of the cessation clause for Liberian refugees, UNHCR supported the voluntary return of more than 29,000 Liberians with transportation and reintegration cash grants.
- More than 6,000 Ivorian refugees, including unaccompanied and separated children, were assisted to return from Nimba, Grand Gedeh and Maryland counties, mainly to the south-western parts of Côte d'Ivoire.

Logistics and operations support

- More than 29,000 Liberians were transported home in a total of 56 trucks.
- Almost 10,000 refugees were relocated from host communities and relocation villages to camps in Grand Gedeh, Maryland and Nimba counties. In Nimba County, 15 relocation communities were closed. The shelters from these sites were given to host communities as a gesture of gratitude for accommodating Ivorian refugees during the 2010-2012 emergency.
- In order to better protect and assist its inhabitants, Ziah camp was closed and the refugees were relocated to PTP and Solo camps in eastern Liberia. The completion of site work for the expansion of PTP and Bahn made it possible for them to host 25,000 and 15,000 refugees, respectively.

Assessment of results

In 2012, UNHCR successfully converted the emergency response programme implemented in 2011 into a more stabilized operation. A comprehensive biometric verification exercise was conducted in order to obtain an accurate figure of the number of Ivorian refugees in the country. This stood at some 65,600 as of 31 December 2012.

Improved data management led to a better understanding of the population's profile which allowed UNHCR to implement tailor-made programmes, including income-generation activities, projects to address gender-based violence and campaigns to raise awareness of HIV and AIDS.

In order to improve the protection of Ivorian refugees and the coordination of humanitarian assistance, the Government decided to relocate refugees into refugee camps from the border areas where they had been living with host communities.

Within camps, refugees had access to basic services. These included comprehensive primary health care, nutrition programmes, reproductive and mental health support and HIV and AIDS assistance. Health facilities in the camps were also accessible to members of surrounding host communities, who made up some 23 per cent of patients. Refugees living in host communities also had access to government health facilities.

UNHCR successfully repatriated more than 29,000 Liberian refugees in 2012, almost twice the initial target of 15,000. Some 600 Liberian refugees could not be repatriated from Côte d'Ivoire in 2012, mainly owing to medical issues.

Constraints

Deplorable road conditions, the long rainy season and other logistical constraints seriously hindered delivery of assistance to refugees in camps. In addition to the access roads between Nimba and Grand Gedeh remaining almost unusable during the second quarter of the year, the route between Liberia and Côte d'Ivoire was completely impassable between September and November 2012. Close to 60 per cent of UNHCR vehicles broke down and required replacement. Out of 56 six-tonne trucks used for transportation of relief items and voluntary repatriation, 35

Working with others

In Liberia, UNHCR worked with 15 implementing partners in 2012. The organization led the multi-faceted refugee response and sought to strengthen inter-agency coordination through various forums, including the One UN mechanism.

UNHCR developed strategic partnerships in 2012. This permitted the delegation of key interventions in WASH and higher primary education to operational partners such as OXFAM and Finnish Church Aid. The UN Mission in Liberia and international contingents in host countries provided UNHCR with timely logistical support and helped in the rehabilitation of access roads.

UNHCR's partnership with the Liberia Refugee Repatriation and Resettlement Commission (LRRRC) was of strategic importance. The LRRRC worked in collaboration with UNHCR to involve various ministries in the implementation of policy to ensure that the rights of refugees were protected and unhindered access to basic services ensured. Such collaboration included joint assessment missions, coordination of health activities with the Ministry of Health and Social Welfare, and the provision of support to the national HIV and AIDS programme via county health teams.

were in serious disrepair, delaying the delivery of assistance and the repatriation process. Voluntary repatriation suffered another setback with the outbreak of cholera in Sierra Leone.

Not all refugee families were provided with transitional shelters owing to the inaccessibility of some refugee camps at certain periods of the year.

Effective coordination was hampered by the high turnover of staff among implementing partners.

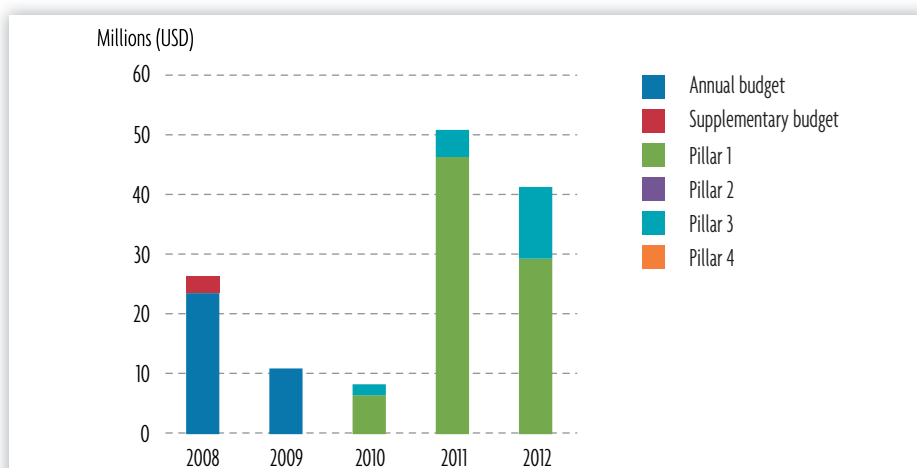
Unmet needs

- Some 5 per cent of the refugee families have been living in tents since December 2010, suffering from exposure to bad weather and in dire need of better accommodation.
- Programmes to address the very high prevalence of anaemia recorded for women of reproductive age and children need to be implemented.
- A secondary education programme could not be set up in 2012 to support some 1,900 refugee adolescents in camps.
- Approximately 600 Liberians willing to return home remain in Côte d'Ivoire.
- UNHCR was not able to implement reintegration activities, such as vocational training or the provision of business grants for the 29,000 repatriated Liberians.

Financial information

The financial requirements for UNHCR's operation in Liberia were reduced from some USD 90 million in 2011 to about USD 65 million in 2012. The level of funding available allowed the operation to expend USD 41.5 million in 2012. The bulk of the expenditure, almost USD 13.3 million, went towards durable solutions activities, primarily for the reception and reintegration of more than 29,000 Liberian refugees returning home. In addition, more than USD 8 million was spent on logistics, including maintenance, trucks, light vehicles, and fuel. The third largest area of expenditure was basic needs and essential services, with total expenditure of approximately USD 7 million.

Expenditures for Liberia | 2008 to 2012



Budget, income and expenditure in Liberia | USD

	PILLAR 1 Refugee programme	PILLAR 3 Reintegration projects	Total
FINAL BUDGET	50,698,778	14,117,852	64,816,630
Income from contributions ¹	12,842,078	128,935	12,971,013
Other funds available / adjustments / transfers	16,661,037	11,913,939	28,574,976
TOTAL FUNDS AVAILABLE	29,503,115	12,042,874	41,545,989
EXPENDITURE BREAKDOWN			
<i>Favourable Protection Environment</i>			
Access to legal assistance and remedies	45,095	95,799	140,893
Subtotal	45,095	95,799	140,893
<i>Fair Protection Processes and Documentation</i>			
Reception conditions	220	211,299	211,519
Registration and profiling	927,841	1,279	929,120
Status determination procedures	270,369	0	270,369
Individual documentation	0	244,302	244,302
Civil registration and status documentation	215,476	0	215,476
Subtotal	1,413,906	456,879	1,870,785
<i>Security from Violence and Exploitation</i>			
Protection from effects of armed conflict	490	0	490
Prevention and response to SGBV	737,140	287,396	1,024,537
Protection of children	787,470	191,597	979,067
Subtotal	1,525,100	478,993	2,004,093
<i>Basic Needs and Essential Services</i>			
Health	2,195,932	0	2,195,932
Reproductive health and HIV services	161,248	0	161,248
Nutrition	477,845	0	477,845
Water	257,769	0	257,769
Sanitation and hygiene	1,227,072	0	1,227,072
Shelter and infrastructure	1,188,823	0	1,188,823
Basic and domestic items	54,071	0	54,071
Services for people with specific needs	178,520	0	178,520
Education	1,336,040	0	1,336,040
Subtotal	7,077,319	0	7,077,319
<i>Community Empowerment and Self-Reliance</i>			
Community mobilization	530,276	0	530,276
Natural resources and shared environment	200,994	0	200,994
Self-reliance and livelihoods	854,222	191,597	1,045,819
Subtotal	1,585,492	191,597	1,777,089
<i>Durable Solutions</i>			
Comprehensive solutions strategy	611	0	611
Voluntary return	2,737,200	9,840,169	12,577,369
Reintegration	595	0	595
Integration	63,555	0	63,555
Resettlement	687,395	0	687,395
Subtotal	3,489,356	9,840,169	13,329,525
<i>Leadership, Coordination and Partnerships</i>			
Coordination and partnerships	53,869	383,518	437,387
Subtotal	53,869	383,518	437,387

	PILLAR 1 Refugee programme	PILLAR 3 Reintegration projects	Total
<i>Logistics and Operations Support</i>			
Logistics and supply	6,221,251	84,727	6,305,978
Operations management, coordination and support	2,136,393	303,614	2,440,007
Subtotal	8,357,644	388,341	8,745,985
<i>Headquarters and Regional Support</i>			
Policy development	2,299	0	2,299
Global strategic direction and management	40,111	0	40,111
Technical advice and support to operations	6,023	0	6,023
Capacities, skills and knowledge development	2,265	2,134	4,399
Subtotal	50,698	2,134	52,832
Balance of instalments with implementing partners	5,904,635	205,443	6,110,078
Total	29,503,112	12,042,874	41,545,986

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 1.