

# Update No. 32

## Côte d'Ivoire Situation

12 September 2011



### HIGHLIGHTS

- Spontaneous refugee returns from Liberia are increasing and reception mechanisms in Côte d'Ivoire are strengthened.
- Cross-border meetings are taking place between UNHCR offices in Liberia and Côte d'Ivoire, as well as with partners, in order to discuss operational aspects of voluntary repatriation and coordination mechanisms.
- In Liberia, 1,387 refugees have been relocated from host communities to the camps since 1 September.



UNHCR monitors the registration of Ivorian returnees in Toulepleu, Cote d'Ivoire (UNHCR/2011)

## Population Movement

Country	Guinea	Burkina Faso	Mali	Ghana	Togo	Benin	Niger	Nigeria	Senegal	Guinea Bissau	Gambia	Sierra Leone
Refugees/ Asylum seekers	2,477	118	972	17,888	4,761	688	96	130	58	76	94	62
Liberia	The total estimated number of Ivorian refugees in Liberia stands at 174, 541.											

## Financial Information

UNHCR's financial requirements for West Africa	
Executive Committee approved budget (with adjustments)	\$ 100,313,854
Regional supplementary budget	\$ 125,993,829
<b>TOTAL revised requirements</b>	<b>\$ 226,307,683</b>

### 2011 Contributions Towards UNHCR's Activities in West Africa at 14 September 2011

Donor	Contribution (USD)
African Development Bank	630,000
African Union	125,000
Australia	4,167,435
Belgium	1,430,615
Canada	2,335,363
CERF	3,970,007
Denmark	3,828,572
EC/ ECHO	5,365,624
ECOWAS	500,000
Finland	1,808,808
France	549,452
Germany	1,027,413
Ireland	544,959
Japan	1,231,072
Liechtenstein	108,460
Netherlands	2,500,000
New Zealand	872,500
Norway	1,431,127
OPEC Fund for Intl. Dev.	339,234
Private donors	1,080,778
Rep. of Korea	300,000
Switzerland	637,767
UN Population Fund	119,840
United Kingdom	7,211,538
United States of America	23,300,000
<b>TOTAL (*)</b>	<b>65,415,564</b>

(\*) In addition, Luxembourg donated USD 87,015 towards UNHCR's initial response in Côte d'Ivoire in December 2010.



Children in Little Wlebo camp, Liberia (UNHCR/Momodu/2011)

## Country Operations

### CÔTE D'IVOIRE

Spontaneous refugee returns from Liberia are becoming more frequent. On 6 September, a group of 500 Ivorian refugees (226 households) assembled at the border. They were transported to Toulepleu, 18 km from the Liberian border, by trucks made available by the United Nations Operation in Côte d'Ivoire (ONUCI). The group received WFP food rations and security was ensured by the *Forces républicaines de Côte d'Ivoire* (FRCI).

During the reporting period, several other groups of returnees arrived in Côte d'Ivoire.

### • Protection

In order to avoid the transport of returnees by military forces, UNHCR decided to establish a permanent base in Toulepleu. Since 10 September, protection staff members are monitoring the border to register returnees. Three commercial trucks have been pre-positioned at the three main entry points. On 11 September, one of the trucks transported eight returnees, all women and children, from the border to a temporary transit center in Guiglo.

A transit center, used during the repatriation operation of Liberian refugees, is due to open in Toulepleu town. Working arrangements are being discussed with the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC).

## • Humanitarian Assistance

The assessment mission led UNHCR to the neighbourhoods of Gonzacqueville and Adjouffou, which were affected by flooding the previous week, found that 587 houses accommodating 4,109 persons were damaged. The displaced are sheltered by host families and in two temporary shelters. While local authorities provide some assistance, the displaced population still is in need of shelter, food, non-food items and access to health services.

Between 7 and 9 September, UNHCR visited IDP camps in Nahibly, Duékoué, and Nazareth in western Côte d'Ivoire, making recommendations with regards to shelter rehabilitation. On 9 September, the International Organization for Migration (IOM) and UNHCR met to consolidate the figures regarding the internally displaced population (IDPs) at the Catholic Mission in Duékoué, following the relocation of 3,168 IDPs to the Nahibly site.

## LIBERIA

The general security situation in Liberia remained calm. The National Elections Commission (NEC) has formally released the final list of candidates qualified to run for the presidential and legislative elections scheduled on 11 October.

The relocation of Ivorian refugees from host communities to the camps continued during the reporting period. A total of 925 refugees moved to the camps, including 656 refugees to PTP camp, 166 refugees from the Cavalla and Pedebo axis to Little Wlebo camp, and 113 refugees from Yourpea and Zorgowee Transit Centers to Bahn camp. Since the start of the relocation on 1 September, 1,387 refugees have been relocated.

On 8 September, a cross-border meeting between UNHCR Liberia, UNHCR Côte d'Ivoire, and partner organizations took place in Loguato, Nimba County. The meeting discussed operational aspects of the voluntary repatriation and coordination mechanisms to support the operation. Cross border meetings are set to take place on a monthly basis.

As of 8 September, 2011, the estimated number of Ivorian refugees in Liberia is 174, 541.

## • Protection

During the relocation exercise in Grand Gedeh County, 24 unaccompanied minors/separated children were identified and registered. Currently the children are in foster care.

In Harper, UNHCR met with the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) to discuss ways to improve referrals, overall collaboration, and the use of ICRC's newly trained child tracing volunteers.

## • Humanitarian Assistance

On 8 September, the general food distribution for September started in Little Wlebo camp targeting 5,257 refugees. The distribution of assorted non-food items to relocated refugees continued at various locations in Grand Gedeh, Nimba, and Maryland Counties. UNHCR office in Harper received more assorted NFIs transported by trucks from Monrovia.

UNHCR has donated an inter-agency emergency health kit to the international NGO Merlin, for use by facilities in Grand Gedeh and Maryland Counties. The kit suffices for 10,000 persons for three months.

Save the Children has commenced "Back-to-School" awareness campaigns in the Dubuzon and Behlewallay communities on the Buutuo axis in Nimba County. In Maryland County, Visions in Action (VIA) continued with the provision of education services, including to refugee children. The distribution of school materials including text books, copy books, stationery, and school bags is ongoing.

The Norwegian Refugee Council has officially taken over the camp management in Ziah camp. Working with Government and implementing partners, UNHCR commenced two major extensions in Bahn camp.

As a result of seasonal rains and bad road conditions, several UNHCR and partners' vehicles experienced breakdowns. UNHCR completed rehabilitation work on a damaged log bridge near Dinplay Town, in Nimba County. A recently collapsed bridge on the Loguato axis near Garplay has also been rehabilitated. The Liberian President is expected to visit the area soon.

## GHANA

In the western and central regions, the general situation in Egyeikrom and Ampain camps and at the Eagle Star Reception Center remains quiet. There was a further decrease of new arrivals, totaling 36 individuals throughout the week. The number of asylum-seekers in the Eagle Star Reception Center has decreased as a result of transfers to Egyeikrom, as well as movements from the Reception Center to host communities. On 9 September, 21 individuals were relocated from the Reception Center to Ampain camp for family reunification.

In Fetentaa camp, in Brong Ahafo region, the atmosphere remained calm. Most of the new arrivals during the reporting period were previously registered refugees who had spontaneously returned to Côte d'Ivoire and came back to the camp mainly due to security concerns at their homes.

## • Protection

In the western and central regions, border-monitoring is planned at all official and non-official border-crossing points. In addition, registration figures will be



verified, the situation of asylum-seekers in host communities assessed and intention surveys conducted.

In the western region, UNHCR provided one and a half day training on UNHCR's Code of Conduct, its mandate and the issue of ex-combatants for all its partners, including the Ghana Health Service, the Ghana Immigration Service, the Ghana Police Service, and camp managers of the National Disaster Management Organisation (NADMO).

#### • Humanitarian Assistance

In Fetantaa camp, Action Aid organized a training on psychosocial interventions from 7 to 10 September. 36 participants including asylum seekers, UNHCR staff, National Catholic Services (NCS) staff and the Camp Health Coordinator attended the training.

In Ampain camp, Oxfam organized a one-week training on hygiene, preparing 25 asylum-seekers to act as sanitation facilitators in order to address diarrhea transmission and dehydration, malnutrition issues and waste disposal.

UNHCR, UNICEF and Oxfam agreed to conduct child-protection trainings in all camps. A meeting was held with leaders and women groups to establish committees on child protection, SGVB, people with disability and other vulnerable cases.

All regions and camps start preparations for the next academic year. In Brong Ahafo Region, the school administration is preparing a community sensitizing campaign to enroll all children of school going age. In Egyeikrom camp, 130 school desks were moved to the camp. In Ampain camp, the Christian Council of Ghana (CCG) met with teachers to discuss measures to attract children who are not yet in school.

## TOGO

Between 6 and 9 September, a registration exercise took place on the Avepozo refugee site and in Lomé town to register asylum-seekers and *prima facie* refugees who arrived in August, as well as refugees who missed the last registration in July. During the exercise, 283 refugees in Avepozo, 183 refugees in Lomé town, and a total of 126 asylum seekers were registered. Almost 50 per cent of the newly registered cases were single households.

The total number of refugees in Togo now is 4,761, of which 2,617 are living on the Avepozo site, and 2,144 in Lomé. The total number of asylum seekers is 146.

#### • Protection

Reacting to rumors on alleged plans to force all Ivorian refugees to repatriate, members of the refugee committee in Avepozo site approached UNHCR for reliable information on repatriation. UNHCR stressed the voluntary character of repatriation and foresees

further sensitization meetings targeting urban refugees in Lomé.

#### • Humanitarian Assistance

Non-food items from the regional stock in Accra arrived in Lomé, including 3,000 blankets, 1,500 plastic buckets, 1,500 jerry cans, 1,200 kitchen kits, 5,000 mats, and 3,000 mosquito nets.

## GUINEA

Visiting N'Zérékoré zone and Kouankan 2 camp, the new President of the *Commission Nationale d'Intégration et de Suivi des Réfugiés* (CNISR) met with UNHCR, implementing partners and local authorities to discuss the general situation, ongoing activities, refugee statistics, and protection issues.

Between 7 and 10 September, food distribution took place in Kouankan 2 camp.

The total number of Ivorian refugees in Guinea is unchanged, standing at 2,477.

## BENIN

During the reporting period, 29 new asylum-seekers were registered. The total number for now is 688.

In **MALI** the total number of asylum seekers remains at 972. The number of registered asylum seekers in **BURKINA FASO** is 118.

# West Africa - Côte d'Ivoire Emergency

Number of refugees and IDPs

As of 12th September 2011



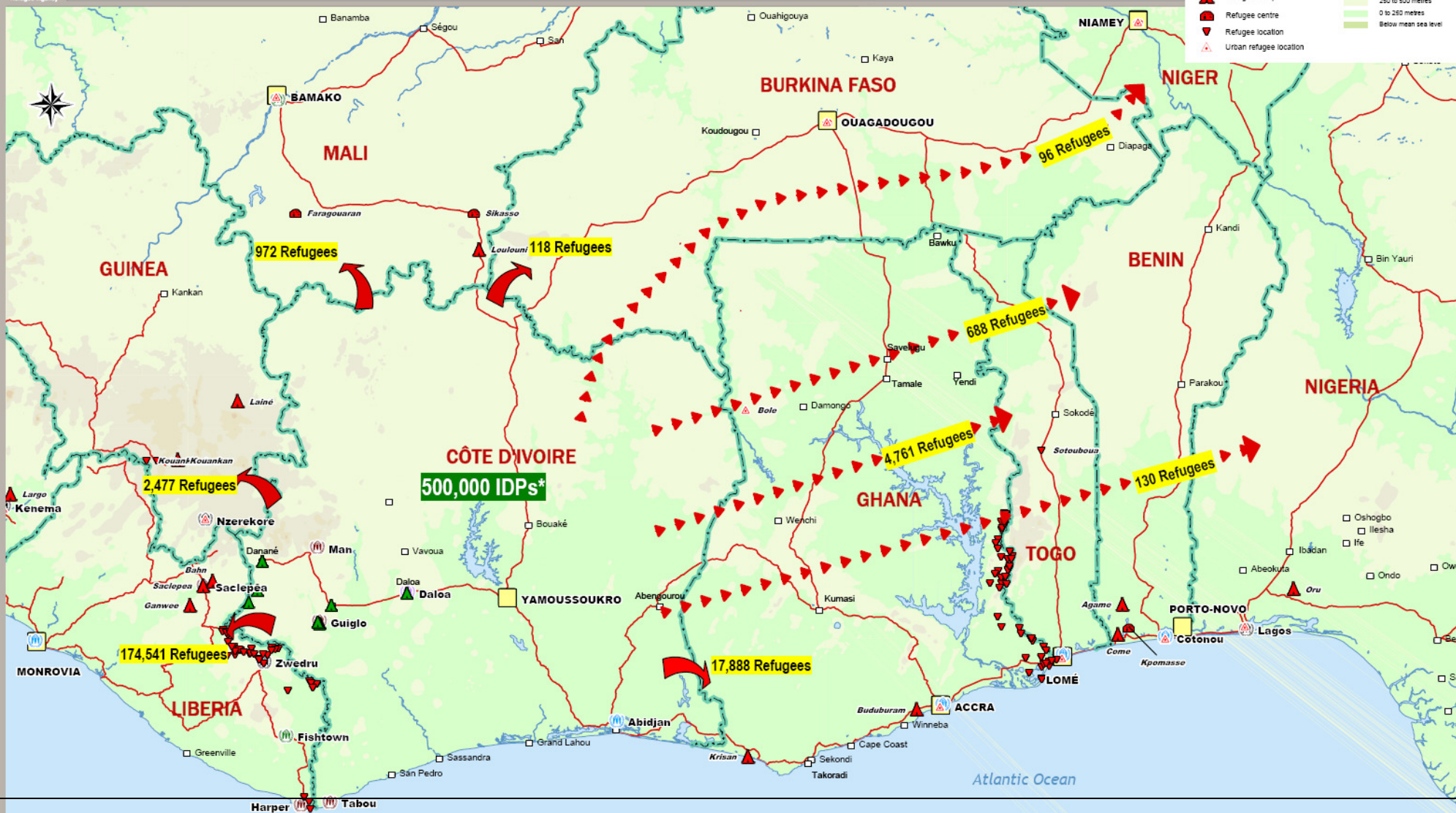
**FIGSS**  
Field Information and  
Coordination Support Section

Sources:  
UNHCR, Global insight digital mapping  
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The boundaries and names shown  
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- Capital
- UNHCR Country Office / National Office / Liaison Office
- UNHCR Sub-Office
- UNHCR Field Office
- UNHCR Field Unit
- UNHCR Planned Office
- IDP camp
- Refugee settlement
- Refugee camp
- Refugee centre
- Refugee location
- Urban refugee location
- Main town or village
- International boundary
- Main road
- Elevation**  
(Above mean sea level)
  - 3,250 to 4,000 metres
  - 2,500 to 3,250 metres
  - 1,750 to 2,500 metres
  - 1,000 to 1,750 metres
  - 750 to 1,000 metres
  - 500 to 750 metres
  - 250 to 500 metres
  - 0 to 250 metres
  - Below mean sea level



\* Unofficial estimate: In view of the volatile situation in Côte d'Ivoire, UNHCR is not yet in a position to provide exact figures.

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