

# Update No. 20

## Côte d'Ivoire Situation

9 June 2011



### HIGHLIGHTS

- The members of the new Government were named on 2 June, with most of the key portfolios held by members of the coalition known as RDHP (*Rassemblement des Houphetistes pour la Démocratie et la Paix*).
- According to *Reuters*, President Ouattara highlighted to the Group of Eight (G8) leaders in Deauville (France) that his country would need between EUR 15 to 20 billion in funding to recover from the violent political turmoil that took place during the recent months.
- During a press conference in Lisbon on 7 June, the President of the African Bank for Development, Donald Kabenka, announced the imminent return of the Organization's headquarters to Abidjan.
- While the situation is stabilizing in Côte d'Ivoire, the ongoing insecurity in parts of the country remains a source of concern.



Mission Catholique, Duékoué, western Côte d'Ivoire (UNHCR/deWOELMONT/2011).

60  
YEARS



## Population Movement

Country	Guinea	Burkina Faso	Mali	Ghana	Togo	Benin	Niger	Nigeria	Senegal	Guinea Bissau	Gambia	Sierra Leone
Refugees/Asylum seekers	2,772	115	941	16,320	5,593	434	79	105	41	34	52	4
Liberia	50,928 Ivorian refugees individually registered and 137,093 through the rapid emergency registration.*											

*In view of the volatile situation in Côte d'Ivoire, UNHCR is not yet in a position to provide exact figures. Some explanations are provided below.*

## Financial Information

UNHCR's financial requirements for West Africa	
Executive Committee approved budget	\$ 99,234,686
Regional supplementary budget	\$ 125,993,829
<b>TOTAL revised requirements</b>	<b>\$ 225,228,515</b>

### 2011 Contributions Towards UNHCR's Activities in West Africa at 25 May 2011

Donor	Contribution (USD)
African Union	125,000
Australia	2,028,398
Canada	2,335,362
CERF	3,155,737
Denmark	3,828,573
EC/ ECHO	2,799,489
ECOWAS	500,000
Finland	1,808,808
France	549,451
Germany	1,027,413
Liechtenstein	108,460
Ireland	544,959
Norway	1,431,127
OPEC fund for Intl. Dev.	339,234
Private donors	596,676
Rep. of Korea	300,000
Switzerland	637,767
UN Population Fund	119,840
United Kingdom	7,211,538
United States of America	19,300,000
<b>TOTAL (*)</b>	<b>48,747,832</b>

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



NFI distribution, Ampain camp, Ghana. (UNHCR/Buckenmeyer /2011)

## Country Operations

### CÔTE D'IVOIRE

At present, and according to the figures provided by humanitarian agencies working in the country, the number of internally displaced persons (IDPs) reaches **13,077** in the east in 6 locations and **132,188** in the west in 40 locations. In Abidjan, **55,912** IDPs have been recorded in 87 locations.

A mission composed of ambassadors and UN representatives, including the UNHCR Representative in Côte d'Ivoire, visited the western part of the country from 31 May to 1 June to assess the extent of the damage and the ongoing challenges. The volatile security situation in the area remains a source of concern, in particular in the perspective of the

construction of the Nahibly site. Discussions have taken place with ONUCI on the possibilities to have them deploy in the area,

The protection cluster finalized a protection strategy for the country, with an emphasis on maintaining the civilian character of the displacement sites and the need to investigate on reported abuses. The child protection sub-cluster is working on protection monitoring particularly for separated children, as well as reports of children associated with armed groups. The sub-cluster on SGBV reported the strong presence of armed groups in areas of high IDP density, as well as an elevated level of incidents related to gender-based violence.

## • Protection

In **Abidjan**, UNHCR and its partners undertook a mapping of displaced populations in sites and host communities with the results expected early next week. The mapping exercise should enable better provision of information to allow for return monitoring in targeted areas with the expected arrival of protection monitors next week.

In the **western region**, 363 Liberian refugees are currently residing at a site adjacent to the ONUCI compound in Guiglo. The assistance and protection needs remain important. Of the 363 refugees, 39 families composed of 91 persons have agreed to be repatriated. Regarding the plan to decongest the Guiglo site, sensitization is underway to relocate around 2,000 IDPs to a temporary site provided by the authorities. In Tabou, preparations are underway for the repatriation of 605 Liberian refugees.

## • Humanitarian Assistance

In **Abidjan**, UNHCR's relocation of 146 IDPs from the closing Yopougon site took place on 2 June, as planned. The IDPs are now settled in their new site and the search for more sustainable durable solutions will continue. The Office is cooperating with the Government to identify an alternative site for an additional 300 IDPs, who will need to be relocated should they remain displaced after one month.

In the **western region**, the new site of Nahibly that is under construction to decongest the Catholic Mission (Duékoué) is on schedule. Registration is underway in the villages of Blody, Bagohouo, Niambly and Toa Zeo. However, IDPs in the Niambly-Duékoué zone are still expressing concerns about the security situation. To facilitate the relocation of IDPs to the Nahibly site, UNHCR has been working with the International Rescue Committee (IRC), SODECI and CARITAS to ensure the site will have adequate facilities. UNHCR Office in Man has agreed on a strategy to provide NFIs for all families who have spontaneously returned and for those who will be assisted to return. In Tabou and Prolo, the construction of a primary school with two buildings of six rooms is going as planned. The school will be inaugurated during the commemoration of World Refugee Day on 20 June.

## LIBERIA

The task force established by the Government of Liberia for the Separation of Armed Elements/Maintaining the Civilian Character of Refugee Camp/Settlement is finalizing arrangements for the internment of former fighters from Côte d'Ivoire, and shall present a budget shortly. There are 88 Ivorian nationals currently detained in Harper who await a transfer to an internment site identified in the town of Wainsue, Bong County. Along with WFP, WHO, UNICEF, OCHA, the Liberian Refugee, Repatriation and Resettlement Commission (LRRRC), and FAO; UNHCR created an interagency Task Force aimed at comprehensively addressing the issue of establishing reliable refugee data more rapidly.

UNHCR also took steps to increase its staffing capacity in this area. Over the reporting period, 59 individuals left Liberia for Côte d'Ivoire with no intention of coming back. Increased numbers of refugees have approached UNHCR and LRRRC indicating their wish to return to Côte d'Ivoire.

## • Protection

In **Nimba County**, the verification of refugees (that started on 16 April) is about to be completed. Up to 3 June, 68 communities have been visited and 35,411 refugees have been physically verified. On the Luguatuo/Gborplay axis, the general security situation along official borders and other crossing points remains relatively calm with few incidents of tension among refugees living in border communities. Liberian security personnel assigned along the border in the axis have confirmed the movement of Ivorian refugees towards Côte d'Ivoire on a daily basis, particularly for economic reasons. Information obtained from refugees visiting their towns and villages of origin, indicates a high incidence of damaged properties as well as instances of land occupation. On the Buutuo Axis, population movements into Côte d'Ivoire are reported as well, but not on a large scale. The inter-agency monitoring exercise in the relocation communities and the identification of separated children (SC) and unaccompanied minors (UAM) have continued. Since the beginning of the year, some 450 UAM/SC have been identified by Save the Children and IRC. At the same time, partners are engaged in identifying foster families following a "child best interests determination". So far, 94 foster families have been identified in the hosting communities and in Bahn. The referral pathway on gender-based violence for Bahn was finalized and translated into French. In the meantime, protection actors operating in the area of New Yourpea (UNHCR, UNFPA, SC and MSF) are about to finalize a referral mechanism for the Southern Axis. Other tools to improve the referral and assistance are being developed in consultation with the Ministry for Gender Development.

In **Grand Gedeh**, an estimated 3,000 new refugees arrived over the reporting period, most of them to the Jazon Axis. Some new refugees who were earlier hiding in the bush or living in IDP camps in Côte d'Ivoire have come to the Tempo Axis.

## • Humanitarian Assistance

In **Nimba County**, Zorgowee Bridge became totally impassable on 30 May. UNHCR and its partners are actively looking into alternative options. Out of the 873 shelters so far constructed by the Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC) in Bahn camp, 78 are still available, in addition to the 102 rooms available in the second transit centre. With the numbers of transfers to Bahn decreasing over the past days, any camp extension decisions will be made as per the weekly arrival of refugees. In addition, a self-help shelter strategy was adopted: each family will be provided with a shelter kit and necessary resources and guidance to erect their own shelter. Vulnerable families will benefit from specific assistance. Relocation of refugees was

conducted in 9 communities (Karnplay, Seykimpa, Gblah, Zuatuo, Wea Beadatu, Toweh Town, Larpea 2, Beeplay and Old Yourpea), where some 1,650 refugees were allocated shelters. With the end of the verification process and the delivery of ration cards to the refugees, UNHCR and WFP finalized the plan for the food distribution in the relocation communities. In Bahn camp and 16 relocation communities, partners are currently reaching over 6,800 children with primary school services, out of whom more than 2,400 are Ivorian. Assistance to relocation community schools includes distribution of education and recreation supplies for the classrooms while refugee children also receive individual learner's kits. Ivorian teachers are selected from amongst the refugees and trained. Several hundred Ivorian and Liberian refugees are also reached with early childhood education services. A joint rapid assessment is currently being conducted along the Buutuo, Loguatuo and Gborplay axis to evaluate the education needs within hosting communities. In the relocation communities on the Loguatuo axis, classrooms are overcrowded, while partners working in the Buutuo axis have recorded a decrease in attendance in Old Yourpea, which is attributed to the problem of food and the engagement of children into commercial activities.

In **Grand Gedeh**, the WASH working group started working on a contingency plan to address acute water diarrhoea. The yellow-fever campaign targeting refugees reached out a total of 26,986 individuals (48 per cent of those targeted). The low coverage was attributed to poor mobilization. With respect to malaria prevention, MSF-Holland reported a decrease in malaria cases of about 50 per cent in the 3 axis they cover. Partners in Grand Gedeh are reaching 8,686 children (4,749 refugees) with primary school services and supplies distribution. In Solo Town transit centre/MOA camp, MSF-Holland runs a mobile clinic one day a week. All new arrival of children aged 6 months to five years have been vaccinated against measles. Over the last few days, over 300 individuals arrived spontaneously on site. Emergency measures are being put in place to cope with the increased influx. In Dougee, as in Solo, UNHCR discussed the possibility of setting up a static health facility and, in the meantime, a MSF mobile clinic has been activated for Dougee. In Solo, given the high number of spontaneous arrivals and challenges in terms of site expansion and tent erection, emergency shelter measures were enacted and refugees were called-upon to share shelter. A distribution of eco stoves is undertaken by the Environmental Foundation for Africa (EFA). Thus far, some 390 families have received stoves. In Ziah transit centre, refugee leadership structures have been put in place. UNHCR partner CONCERN has added an additional water tank for distribution of water and is distributing hygiene kits. A total of 5,670 individuals have already received food for the May food distribution caseload and NFIs were distributed to 1,151 persons.

In **Maryland**, the Maryland County Health Team declared a measles outbreak requiring an immediate county-wide vaccination campaign. UNHCR, UNICEF and the Ministry of Health and Social Welfare have

coordinated the delivery of 31,710 doses of measles vaccines and its accessories to vaccinate children of 6 months to 5 years of age. The mass vaccination started on 8 June. In the field of education, a total number of 29 classrooms have been identified for up to 1,450 Ivorian primary school students. UNICEF is currently mobilizing education supplies and books to reach 9,800 refugee children in Maryland.

## GHANA

The number of persons crossing to Ghana from Côte d'Ivoire to seek asylum has decreased during the reporting period. In total, 200 persons have crossed through Elubo between 30 May and 5 June. The beginning of the rainy season in Ghana has increased the difficulty to set up new sites. While transfer to Fetenta camp in Brong Ahafo has started, the development of Egyekrom site in the Central region is being delayed due to difficult access and constant rains. The general situation in the regions receiving asylum-seekers is calm, while the issue of Eagle Star reception center accommodating a number of alleged combatants/ex-combatants is now being addressed by the Government.

In the **Brong Ahafo region**, UNHCR sensitized the Ivorian asylum-seekers accommodated at Berekum transit centre on the relocation plan. UNHCR is working in collaboration with the authorities and other partners to ensure that the relocation is conducted safely and methodically, although heavy rains continue to pose challenges to camp site clearing efforts and delimitation of additional plots. The relocation plan will therefore need to be revised daily. Further to the relocation of 86 individuals from Oseikodjokorum, the transit center is now empty and, in consultation with the Ghana Refugee Board (GRB), the site has been closed and handed over to the District Authorities. UNHCR will continue to undertake protection monitoring in the area.

In the **western region**, Ampain camp is at full capacity with movements from the reception centre accommodated in vacant shelters and four communal shelters constructed as a stop gap measure. Continued movement will only be possible when additional empty shelters will be identified. The 50 initial emergency shelters that were constructed in Egyekrom have been flooded and are no longer habitable. 10 shelters have been constructed on the hills and more will be constructed in the coming days. The construction of the police post and clinic has commenced. A joint assessment team of representatives from UN agencies, the Ghana Health Service and implementing partners carried out a mission to the western region to identify gaps that need to be addressed.

### • Protection

In the **Brong Ahafo region**, a team of UNHCR and GRB staff completed the preparation of certificates to be issued to all asylum-seekers in Ghana. The certificates, valid until October 2011, recognize each holder as an asylum-seeker, entitled to protection from

the Ghanaian Government. Protection monitoring continues both at Fetenta and Berekum transit centres, while interviews of some special cases are ongoing to provide a better understanding of their profiles and assistance needs.

In the **western region**, the protection team in Ampain refugee camp is continuing with the protection assessment based on regular counselling with asylum-seekers. In addition, the team at the Eagle Star reception center continues to screen the suspected combatants/ex-combatants.

#### • Humanitarian Assistance

In the **Brong Ahafo region**, a distribution of women's underwear and baby kits took place at Berekum transit centre and at Fetenta camp to women above 11 years and babies below one year. Allocation of plots and shelter for the first group to be transferred to Fetenta has been completed, taking into account people with special needs. The security post structure is completed and the construction of the temporary school started over the weekend. Out of the total of 60 delimited plots, 31 are occupied. The remainder will be soon inhabited by the asylum-seekers coming from Berekum transit centre. The construction of a few transitional shelters is expected to start in the coming week to provide families with special needs a ready-made shelter, while other families can be trained to construct their own shelters. Work at the storage room continues to improve the flooring. This is of utmost priority to be able to stock food and non-food items while doing the distributions. The monthly food distribution was completed at Berekum camp, and lamps and coal pots were distributed in Fetenta. In addition rice, charcoal and soap were provided to the 86 residents of the camp. At least 18,500 litres of water is delivered to Berekum transit centre every day, providing some 670 persons with 25 litres per person per day.

In the **western region**, space for erecting an additional 35 shelters was identified in Ampain refugee camp. This will allow for the transfer of additional 150 persons from Eagle Star. Primary schooling is gradually being upgraded, with school materials being dispatched. Two ambulances funded by IPPF for a month are providing immense support to the clinic in dealing with referral cases. Church of Christ, in collaboration with UNICEF, has identified sites for construction of additional latrines. Torrential rains on 31 May caused flooding in some parts of the camp and many of the tents are leaking and need to be covered with additional plastic sheets. The Joint Health and Nutrition Rapid assessment completed the field portion of its work on 2 June in the camp.

In the **central region**, the site preparation at Egyeikrom is taking more time than expected. Two poly-tanks (out of three) donated by Ecobank have been mounted, while a group of emergency shelters are erected in the area less affected by the flood waters. One sample latrine has been completed at Egyeikrom and three others are under construction.

The Global Baptist Organization is expected to start the drilling of the boreholes in Egyeikrom shortly.

## GUINEA

No new arrivals from Côte d'Ivoire were registered during the reporting week. Thus far, a total of **2,772** Ivorian refugees have been registered in Guinea.

#### • Protection

A protection/community services/field mission visited Kouankan on 2 June with Crédit Rural de Guinée (CRG) and BRISR for the planning and preparation of the international days (including African Childhood Day and World Refugee Day) as well as the transfer of refugees from Kouankan I to Kouankan II, and the monitoring of certain protection cases (registration, voluntary repatriation, rape). 89 persons were transferred from Kouankan I to Kouankan II.

#### • Humanitarian Assistance

In preparation of the June 2011 general distribution of food in Kouankan II, refugees were informed of the composition of the food basket, which shall ensure a provision of 2,100 kcal/person/day.

## BURKINA FASO

The number of Ivorian asylum-seekers in Burkina Faso stands at **115**. No new arrivals of Ivorians were reported by the authorities during the reporting period.

## TOGO

Some 274 arrivals have been reported in the course of last week, bringing the total number of Ivorian refugees in Togo to **5,593**. As of 6 June, 1,972 refugees are hosted at the Tropicana camp.

#### • Protection

Ivorian refugees newly arrived in Togo continue to receive refugee identity cards. Five additional demands for repatriation have been registered during the reporting period, bringing the total number of demands for voluntary repatriation to 274.

#### • Humanitarian Assistance

Works on the construction of additional shelters to extend the hosting capacity of the Tropicana camp are ongoing. Refugees receive water in sufficient quantities.

## MALI

There are **941** registered Ivorian asylum-seekers in Mali. The situation has stabilized and no new arrival of Ivorian asylum-seekers was observed. All Ivorians are located in Bamako, generating pressure on already limited resources available for support to urban refugees.

## **NIGERIA**

There were no new arrivals from Côte d'Ivoire reported in the reporting week. Thus far, **105** Ivorian asylum-seekers have been registered in Nigeria.

## **BENIN**

There are **434** Ivorian asylum-seekers (301 households) in Benin thereby indicating an increase of 31 new arrivals registered by the CNAR in the reporting week.

## **SIERRA LEONE**

No new arrivals from Côte d'Ivoire were reported in the course of the week. The number of Ivorian asylum-seekers in Sierra Leone stands at **four**.

## **NIGER**

Thus far, **79** Ivorian asylum-seekers have been registered in Niger.

## **THE GAMBIA**

No new arrivals were reported this week. Thus far, **52** Ivorian refugees have been registered in The Gambia.

## **GUINEA BISSAU**

There are **34** Ivorian asylum-seekers registered in Guinea-Bissau.

For a map of operations in the West Africa region with updated statistics, please visit:  
<http://www.unhcr.org/pages/4d831f586.html>

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