

Update No. 23

Côte d'Ivoire Situation

07 July 2011



HIGHLIGHTS

- On 7 July, Ivorian President Alassane Ouattara nominated former anti-Gbagbo military commander, General Soumaila Bakayoko, as head of the country's newly integrated Forces républicaines de la Côte d'Ivoire (FRCI). The FRCI will merge forces loyal to Ouattara and the former pro-Gbagbo Forces de Défenses et de Sécurité (FDS).
- The government of Côte d'Ivoire has promised to carry out economic reforms and to normalise the security situation as its key priorities over the next six months, promising to "step up the fight against robbery" and devise a system for biometric identification of former rebel soldiers who assisted Ouattara take power. The cocoa sector, which caters to 40% of total world demand for cocoa, will also be reformed, including the publishing of audit reports. In addition, Government also plans to regularly publish figures of oil and gas revenues.
- On 07 July, Mr. Young-Jin Choi (United Nations Special Representative for Côte d'Ivoire) and Ms. Ellen Margrethe Løj (UN Secretary-General Special Representative for Liberia), met with Ivorian President Alassane Ouattara. They proposed a quadripartite meeting among Côte d'Ivoire, Liberia, the UN Operation in Côte d'Ivoire (UNOCI) and the UN mission in Liberia, to address transhumance of militia along the Ivorian-Liberian border.



Entrance to the Ampain Camp, Ghana (UNHCR/Buckenmeyer/2011)

60
YEARS



Population Movement

Country	Guinea	Burkina Faso	Mali	Ghana	Togo	Benin	Niger	Nigeria	Senegal	Guinea Bissau	Gambia	Sierra Leone
Refugees/ Asylum seekers	2,394	118	955	17,023	6,406	515	79	104	64	34	65	4
Liberia	The total estimated number of Ivorian refugees stands at 144,229.											

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 (with adjustments)	\$ 100,313,854
Regional supplementary budget	\$ 125,993,829
TOTAL revised requirements	\$ 226,307,683

2011 Contributions Towards UNHCR's Activities in West Africa at 07 June 2011

Donor	Contribution (USD)
African Union	125,000
Australia	4,167,435
Belgium	1,430,615
Canada	2,335,362
CERF	3,155,737
Denmark	3,828,573
EC/ ECHO	3,939,090
ECOWAS	500,000
Finland	1,808,808
France	549,451
Germany	1,027,413
Ireland	544,959
Japan	1,231,072
Liechtenstein	108,460
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
TOTAL (*)	54,688,157

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

CÔTE D'IVOIRE

A trend towards massive spontaneous return has been observed and confirmed by UNHCR in both Côte d'Ivoire and Liberia. The figure could vary between 40,000 to 64,000. To date, 463 refugees have reportedly returned to their villages in and around Blolequin voluntarily. In addition, 474 IDPs have returned from Danané to Zouan-Hounien, in western Côte d'Ivoire, involved 474 persons.

• Protection

UNHCR, CARITAS and Vivre Informer Fraterniser (VIF), a national NGO based in western Côte d'Ivoire, visited return villages of Gricoria, Yokorio and Zobia in the Haut-Sassandra region to assess the living conditions of returnees. The mission noted that numerous houses were destroyed and pillaged. In

Country Operations



Food distribution in Ampain Camp, Ghana. (UNHCR/Buckenmeyer/2011)

Duékoué, the first relocation of IDPs took place on 30 June. 353 IDPs were moved from the Catholic Mission to Nahibly, the new site. Before their departure, the IDPs were sensitized to their new environment after which an assessment of their voluntary relocation was carried out. Also, all IDPs underwent medical check-up before their departure. The site measures 17 fenced hectares divided into eight blocks.

LIBERIA

As of 30 June, the estimated total refugee number in Liberia stands at **144,919**. UNHCR and partners continue to register new arrivals.

During the reporting period, a total of more than 1,000 refugees have been relocated away from the border. In Nimba County, a total of 268 individuals were relocated on 30 June, from various border

communities to the Bahn refugee camp. Relocations of mainly women, children and persons in need of medical attention also took place from the New Yourpea way station and the Zorgowee transit centre. In Maryland County, a total of 867 persons were relocated to the Little Wlebo refugee camp from the Bishop Ferguson transit centre. Relocated families were provided with hot meals and shelter upon arrival in Little Wlebo refugee camp. UNHCR Field/Protection monitors continue to sensitize refugees to the need to relocate to refugee camps away from border areas and transit camps.

• Protection

During the reporting period, seven cases of separated children (SC) and two cases of unaccompanied minors (UAMs) were documented by Save the Children - UK in border communities. Ten other cases of UAMs/SC were also documented in New Yourpea way station. Also, six case management follow-ups were made, while focus group discussions on Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (SEA) were conducted for 40 adolescent girls between ages 13-18 in Behlewally and Dubuzon. During the first two days of the relocation exercise from the Bishop Ferguson transit centre to the Little Wlebo refugee camp, 519 refugees were relocated including 56 separated children and five UAMs. The UAMs were referred to the Danish Refugee Council (DRC) for placement in foster families while efforts are made to locate their family members.

• Humanitarian Assistance

UNHCR provided six trucks to support food distribution for the month of June in the 16 relocation communities, as well as in the Loguatu area. Non-food Items (NFIs) were distributed by UNHCR Field Office in Harper to over 852 refugee families. In total, for the month of June, WFP provided food assistance to close to 180,371 beneficiaries, including 98,754 refugees in Nimba, Grand Gedeh and Maryland Counties. One-off food distribution to host communities has been completed in Nimba County and is currently ongoing in Maryland County with 72,065 hosts receiving assorted food commodities. So far, 1,508 refugees have benefited from the general food distributions in River Gee County. Food distribution to refugees is still ongoing in all four counties.

UNHCR donated a generator to the Bahn Health Centre managed by the Ministry of Health. The Ministry of Health has deployed six professional staff to Grand Gedeh and Maryland counties to assist in the delivery of refugee health services. During the reporting period, Médecins Sans Frontières-Belgium (MSF-B) reported that Malaria is still a prevalent disease recorded and diagnosed during mobile clinic visits to border communities. They reported an increase of 921 patients getting treatment in mobile clinics in the Buutuo Axis and 75 new patients in its Ante-Natal Care (ANC) unit. 31 children were registered under the MSF-B nutrition programme in the Buutuo Axis. Preventive and response services are

ongoing in the face of increasing Malaria incidence in all four counties. On top of mosquito nets distribution, indoor residual spraying is also underway with more than 8,000 houses and shelters sprayed so far in the designated host communities, transit centre and Bahn refugee camp in Nimba County. Preliminary results of the fourth nutrition assessment in Nimba County reveal a gradual decline in malnutrition cases amongst the refugee population (10% in December, 8% in February, 5.8% in April and 2.8% in June).

The population in Little Wlebo refugee camp has increased from 1,172 to 2,043 as a result of a few new registered arrivals and following ongoing relocation exercise from the Bishop Ferguson transit centre. The Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC) and Action Contre la Faim (ACF) are extending Bahn Camp in order to provide capacity for an additional 90 to 100 shelters. A new shelter strategy is being implemented for the Bahn camp extension area. In the past, all shelters were built by NRC. Under the new strategy, people will be provided with shelter kits so they can build their own shelters. A total of 1,102 shelters have been completed in the 16 relocation communities. The target number of new shelters proposed for these communities is now 1,507.

The Ministry of Education has officially announced the regulation allowing the use of government school buildings to provide education services for refugee children during the summer vacation of the Liberia education system. Catch-up classes and accelerated learning programmes are ongoing for refugee children and youth.

GHANA

As of 4 July, the number of Ivorian asylum-seekers in Ghana stands at **17,023**. In the Brong Ahafo region, Fetentaa Camp registered one new arrival. Following the database update aimed at including self-relocated asylum-seekers, the camp population now stands at 569 individuals. In the western region, the total population of Eagle star, as of 30 June, stands at 696 and the population of Ampain camp is 6,667.

• Protection

In the western region, planning for the level 2 registration/verification exercise was well-coordinated with the support of UNHCR Accra. The registration exercise will hold from 4 to 11 July. The exercise aims to collect accurate information on individual asylum-seekers for effective protection and assistance by UNHCR, the government and its partners.

The population of Eagle Star continues to increase on a daily basis, though the number of new arrivals from Côte d'Ivoire has slightly decreased. There was daily movement of asylum-seekers from Elubo to Eagle star, however only one movement of 60 individuals was made from Eagle Star to Ampain, due to lack of capacity at Ampain. In order to create a healthy atmosphere for the asylum-seekers, as well as effective protection and assistance, there is need to

urgently complete Egyiekrom camp. This completion will allow decongestion of Ampain and move persons of concern to UNHCR from Eagle star.

• Humanitarian Assistance

In the western region, there are seven schools with a total population of 826 primary and nursery school pupils. The nursery and primary schools have a total of 31 teachers. On 28 June, 466 children received exercise books. These materials were supported by UNHCR through the Christian Council of Ghana (CCG). At a joint meeting with UNHCR, UNICEF and the CCG Education Coordinator, UNICEF and UNHCR presented a UNICEF donation of 1,000 exercise books and other writing materials.

Ampain A and B have a total of 1,212 shelters, 11 boreholes, 68 latrines and 81 bathrooms. However, the population of the camp is more than the number of shelters can hold and exceeds the capacity of the camp by approximately 1,500 persons. Furthermore, there were 123 tents at Eagle star, but after the heavy rains, the long structure with 15 rooms is now inhabitable. Presently, there are 118 shelters, which include 21 newly erected tents.

In the Brong Ahafo region, interviews were held for teacher positions on 29 July and 10 teachers were selected. In Fetentaa, work on compacting the school area has been completed. The school officially opened on 4 July. A total of 119 pupils have been registered to date. The compacting of the remainder of block G was completed on 29 June. Thirteen more tents have been relocated/erected to cater for the remaining asylum-seekers who were living in temporary accommodation. Following the reorganisation, the number of tents in Fetentaa is now 180. The majority of the tents are lightweight and only 22 are canvas tents. Electricity poles were erected and changes were made to the layout to ensure that the toilet areas and all corners of the camp are well lit. Work should be completed by next week and it is hoped that the camp will be connected to the main electricity grid by then. There was a distribution of Action Aid materials on 29 June. 184 women received a box of sanitary materials and five under-wears each. Soap was also distributed.

The tent-by-tent HIV awareness-raising campaign was successful. A discussion on HIV and accessible services was well attended. Following the discussion, 77 camp residents undertook voluntarily HIV tests. Another two came for tests the next day. All test results were negative.

GUINEA

New arrivals of Ivorian refugees were registered during the reporting period. As of 3 July, the total number of Ivorian refugees in Guinea stands at **2,394**. 57 Ivorian refugees were transferred from N'Zérékoré to the transit centre in Kouankan I.

TOGO

Togo continues to register new arrivals of Ivorian refugees. However, since early June, there has been a drop in the number of new arrivals from about 60 to 80 per day to about 20 to 30 a day, from Ghana and Côte d'Ivoire respectively. As of 29 June, the total number of Ivorian refugees in Togo stands at **6,406**.

• Protection

Training on refugee registration and code of conduct was held at the UNHCR office on 30 June and 01 July. 132 new arrivals were registered during the reporting period in the Tropicana camp. This brings the total camp population to 2, 663. The UNHCR office visited police border authorities at Aflao in order to maintain its presence at this entry point, which is highly used by asylum-seekers and refugees. At Camp level, awareness-raising on refugee rights and duties is ongoing.

• Humanitarian Assistance

On 1 July, UNICEF inaugurated a school building in the presence of the Directors of Departmental Education. A new ward with integrated toilets is under construction in the camp clinic. The monthly distribution of food and complementary NFIs was carried out during the week to 453 individuals. The total number of beneficiaries as of 2 July stands at 2,253 individuals. 150 pots and 300 mats were also distributed.

The Togolese branch of Action pour l'Alimentation Infantile (GAAIN-TOGO), a UNICEF partner, proposed a project to support UNHCR child malnutrition efforts. 305 patients were received and consulted during the reporting period. Eight patients were referred to the Centre Hospitalier Universitaire (CHU). The site medical team has had three new health workers from the Association Togolaise pour le Bien-Etre Familial (ATBEF), including two medical assistants and one nurse. Many patients receive on-site consultation in the camp clinic. During the reporting period, 28 patients were received among which 11 were diagnosed with Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD). Two patients had generalized anxiety disorder and one is autistic.

BURKINA FASO

Thus far, the number of Ivorian asylum-seekers in Burkina Faso stands at **118**.

MALI

No new arrivals from Côte d'Ivoire were reported in Mali this week. Thus far, the number of Ivorian asylum-seekers stands at **955**.

NIGERIA

No new arrivals from Côte d'Ivoire were reported in the course of the week. Thus far, **104** Ivorian asylum-seekers have been registered in Nigeria.

BENIN

During the reporting period, nine families of Ivorian asylum-seekers (12 individuals) were registered. This brings the total number of Ivorian asylum-seekers in Benin to **515**.

SIERRA LEONE

No new arrivals from Côte d'Ivoire reported in the course of the week. The number of Ivorian asylum-seekers in Sierra Leone stands at **4**.

NIGER

The number of Ivorian asylum-seekers in Niger stands at **38**.

THE GAMBIA

No new arrivals were reported in The Gambia this week. Thus far, the number of Ivorian asylum-seekers in The Gambia stands at **65**.

GUINEA BISSAU

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

For further information, please contact:

UNHCR Headquarters
94, Rue de Montbrillant
Geneva, 1202

Valentin Tapsoba
Regional Representative
UNHCR RRWA, Dakar
Phone: +221 33 867 62 07
Email: tapsoba@unhcr.org

Véronique Robert
Senior Protection Officer
UNHCR RRWA, Dakar
Phone: + 221 33 867 62 07
Email: robert@unhcr.org

Maité Kervyn
Reporting Unit
UNHCR RRWA, Dakar
Phone: + 221 33 867 62 07 (ext. 2112)
Email: kervyn@unhcr.org

