

Cote d'Ivoire

September 2021

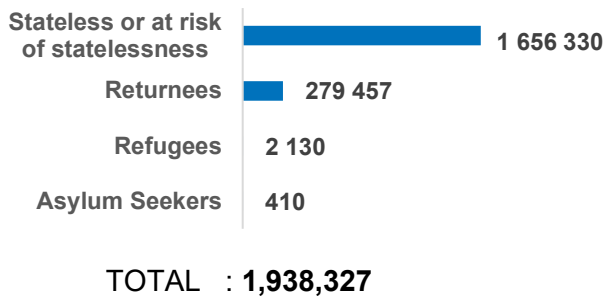
In a context of COVID-19 pandemic, UNHCR assisted with the **voluntary repatriation of 2,747 Ivorians** from Benin, Ghana, Mauritania, Liberia and Togo

Ministerial Regional Meeting in Abidjan: signature of a joint declaration leading to **cessation of refugee status as of June 30, 2022**

Influx of over 3,000 people from Burkina Faso, Government and UNHCR on the front line to provide emergency assistance

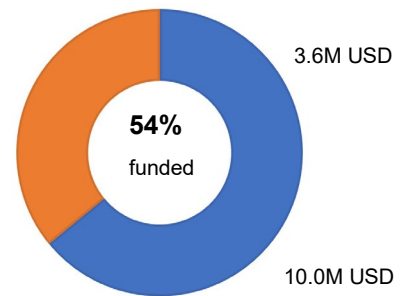
POPULATION OF CONCERN :

Côte d'Ivoire



FUNDING (AS 30 SEPTEMBER 2021)

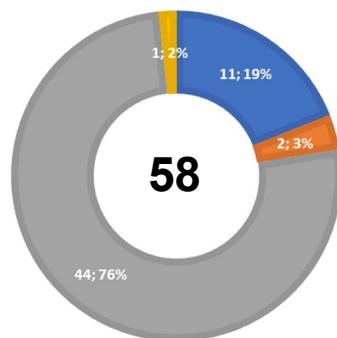
requested for the Côte d'Ivoire situation



UNHCR PRESENCE

Staff:

- 44 National Staff
- 01 National UNV
- 11 International Staff
- 02 IUNV



UNHCR office:

- 1 Branch Office in **Abidjan**
- 1 Sub Office in **Guiglo**



WORKING WITH PARTNERS

UNHCR Côte d'Ivoire works in close partnership with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Ministry of Justice and Human Rights, *Caritas-CI*, *World Food Program (WFP)*, the *United Nations Volunteers Programme (UNV)* and *Association des Femmes Juristes de Côte d'Ivoire (AFJCI)*.

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Main Activities

Voluntary Repatriation of Ivorian Refugees

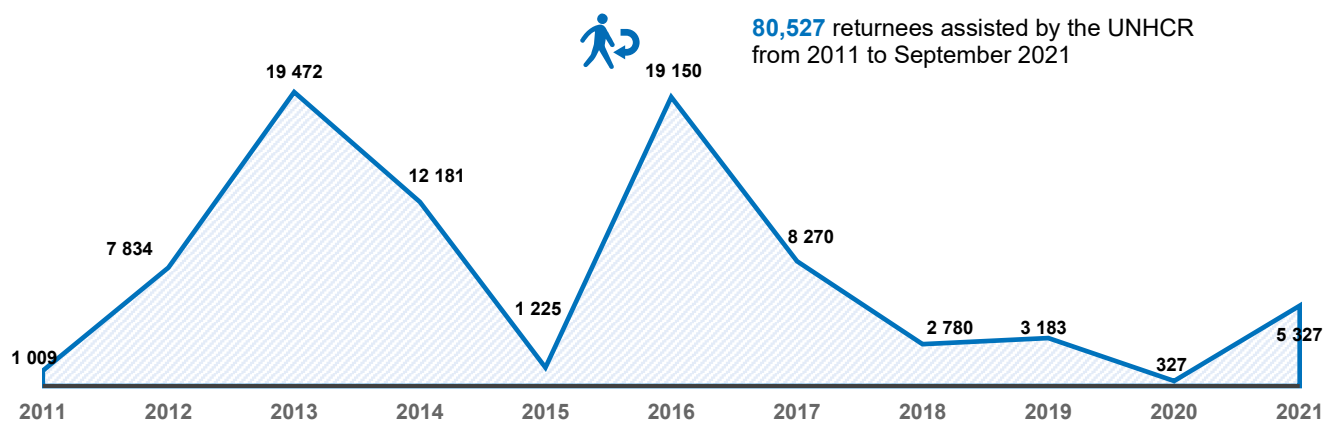
- VolRep Recap – September 2021.

Date	CoA	Returnees	*Other Of Concern	Household
01 September 2021	Liberia	199	0	60
02 September 2021	Liberia	167	3	38
03 September 2021	Liberia	56	0	16
04 September 2021	Liberia	162	0	35
06 September 2021	Liberia	169	3	51
07 September 2021	Mauritania	1	0	1
08 September 2021	Liberia	169	1	45
08 September 2021	Liberia	168	4	48
08 September 2021	Liberia	160	8	42
09 September 2021	Togo	2	0	1
10 September 2021	Ghana	178	0	71
10 September 2021	Benin	6	0	4
10 September 2021	Liberia	154	5	40
10 September 2021	Liberia	218	22	73
15 September 2021	Liberia	170	0	58
17 September 2021	Liberia	86	7	20
17 September 2021	Liberia	165	0	53
20 September 2021	Togo	65	0	26
20 September 2021	Liberia	99	3	40
22 September 2021	Liberia	56	2	20
24 September 2021	Liberia	31	0	8
28 September 2021	Liberia	247	0	58
29 September 2021	Liberia	19	0	8
TOTAL SEPTEMBER 2021	16	2747	58	816

* **NoC** (Not of Concern) refers to returnees relatives accompanying their Ivorian families

- Since January 2021, a total of **5,327** Ivorian refugees have been repatriated with UNHCR assistance, **2,560** of whom from Liberia.

Assisted Voluntary Returns from January to 30th of September 2021



Refugees

- As of August 31th, 2021, a total of 2,130 refugees and 410 asylum seekers are registered in Côte d'Ivoire.

Sahel situation and influx of asylum seekers from Burkina Faso

- On September 8, 2021, some populations of the villages of Farango, Farakorosso, Kangodia, Mouroukoudougou, Nyangbo and Mouassikoro in the province of Comoé, region of the Cascades, in Burkina Fasso, crossed the border to seek asylum in northern Côte d'Ivoire following the presence of armed men and alleged assassinations in their areas. To assess the situation, a joint UNHCR and DAARA visited these populations in distress, in the Department of Tehini, in order to meet their basic needs. These populations expressed to the mission their willingness to settle in the host villages, and consequently, to submit asylum requests in order to benefit from international protection. As of September 21st, 2021, the global figure, including people who arrived in May, is of 3,039 persons. To note that another joint UNHCR and DAARA mission is ongoing and might come up with even higher figures.

Localités	Nombre de Réfugiés
Moromoro	1058
Tougbo	957
Sessegbo	26
Farako	36
Bole	659
Didassakoura	161
Lorogbo	28
Lekouedor	84
Total	3039

- On September 30th 2021, a joint mission including 3 Ministers (solidarity, security, planning and development) and UNHCR Representative visited Tehini, to provide food and non-food assistance to meet the basic needs of about 3,000 people who found asylum in northern Côte d'Ivoire. The Government donation, of about USD 95,000 included essential medicines, 25 tons of rice, 5 tons of canned tomatoes, 2 tons of pasta, 7,200 pieces of soap, 453 mats, kettles and 2 million FCFA in cash. In addition, UNHCR also proceeded, in the Sub-prefecture of Tougbo, to the distribution of NFIs to 531 people (96 households) including kitchen kits, mats, soaps, blankets, mosquito nets, jerry cans, etc. It should be noted that prior to these assistances, UNHCR with its partners CARITAS, DAARA, along with UNICEF proceeded, on June, to the distribution of NFI for 427 people and 23 host families in the department of Tehini.



3 Ministers of Côte d'Ivoire Government and UNHCR Representative at Tehini for emergency assistance to asylum seekers from Burkina Faso

Ministerial Regional Meeting for Comprehensive Solutions to Ivorian Refugees

- On September 07, 2021, the governments of Ivory Coast, the countries hosting large numbers of Ivorian refugees and UNHCR signed a joint declaration leading to cessation of refugee status as of June 30, 2022. The agreement came after a two-day ministerial regional meeting held in Abidjan which also stressed the need to intensify voluntary repatriation of over 50,000 Ivorians refugees and support alternative legal status for those who opt to remain in their countries of asylum. Ministers and High-level Government Officials from Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana, Liberia, Mali, Mauritania, and Togo attended the meeting with participation of UNHCR Assistant High Commissioner for Operations, the Regional Bureau Director for West and Central Africa, Representatives and colleagues from asylum countries and Regional Bureau.



Abidjan - Official signature of the joint declaration leading to cessation of refugee status

Statelessness

- Over 10,000 children, unregistered at birth, are expected to receive late birth certificate by the end of 2022 in the district of Abidjan. As part of a campaign against statelessness, NGO RADDEF has launched the initiative, on September 20th, 2021, with technical participation of UNHCR. According to UNICEF, more than 28% of children under 5 are still not registered at birth in Côte d'Ivoire, that is about one million children.
- From September 29 to 30, 2021, UNHCR has organized a workshop in Guiglo to reinforce the capacity of 21 journalists, mostly from community radios, on its mandate and communication opportunities. The participants reiterated their willingness to strengthen collaboration with the UNHCR and to intensify communication, through radio shows, to better protect the rights of refugees, returnees and people at risk of statelessness.

COVID-19

- The repatriation of Ivorians refugees is ongoing in the strict respect of protection measures in all the UNHCR transit centers with disposal of hand washing kits, hydro hygienic gel, masks, etc.
- The National Security Council has indicated, on Thursday, September 09, 2021, that depending on the future evolution of the COVID-19 epidemic in the country, more restrictive measures will be taken, especially the prohibition of access to restaurants, maquis, bars, cinemas, stadiums, hotels, public and private administrative buildings, universities and colleges, to unvaccinated people or to people who do not have an antigen test or negative PCR certificate dating back less than 72 hours.
- As of September 30, 2021, Côte d'Ivoire has **60,253** confirmed cases, of which **57,995** have been cured, **624** have died and **1,634** are active.

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LINKS

[Country Portal](#) - [Ivorian Returnee Situation](#) - [Twitter](#) - [Facebook](#)