Côte d’Ivoire
September 2018

UNHCR assisted with the Voluntary Repatriation of 409 Ivorians from Guinea, Togo, Ghana and Liberia respectively.

UNHCR Regional Representative held a mission in Côte d’Ivoire to meet with Ivorian authorities and UNHCR key partners.

The US Embassy in collaboration with UNHCR held a “Friends of Statelessness” event at the USA’ residence.

POPULATION OF CONCERN:
Côte d’Ivoire

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Stateless or at risk of statelessness</td>
<td>692,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Returnees</td>
<td>269,598</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Refugees</td>
<td>1,785</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asylum Seekers</td>
<td>241</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td>963,624</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

FUNDING (AS OF 30 SEPTEMBER 2018)
requested for the Côte d’Ivoire situation

1.8M USD
9%
Funded

14.2M USD
91%
Unfunded

UNHCR PRESENCE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Staff:</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>42 National Staff</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>40 National UNV</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>08 International Staff</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>03 IUNV</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>03 Interns</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>04 Consultant</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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 Justice and Human Rights, Association de Soutien à l’Auto-promotion Sanitaire Urbaine (ASAPSU), Caritas-CI, Développement Rural et Agricole à l’Ouest (DRAO), World Food Program (WFP), the United Nations Volunteers Programme (UNV) and Association des Femmes Juristes de Côte d’Ivoire (AFJCI).

UNHCR is grateful for the generous contributions of donors to the Côte d’Ivoire operation: Denmark | Private donors in Japan| Peacebuilding Fund, as well as donors of unrestricted and regional funds: United States of America | Sweden | United Kingdom| Italy | Netherlands | Norway | Private donors in Spain | Australia | Japan | Switzerland | France | Canada | Private donors in Italy.
18-19 September 2018, UNHCR Regional Representative: Mrs. Liz Ahua and Mr. Denis Kuindje the regional protection assistant held a mission in Cote D’Ivoire, a mission during which they were both able to meet and discuss UNHCR matters in the sub-region having a focus on Cote D’Ivoire with the African Development Bank, the World Bank, the US Embassy, the local UNCT team as well as key Ivorian ministries (Justice and Human Rights, Foreign Affairs and Solidarity).

Main Activities

Voluntary Repatriation of Ivorian Refugees


<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>CoA</th>
<th>Returnees</th>
<th>Household</th>
<th>NoC*</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday, September 04, 2018</td>
<td>Togo</td>
<td>114</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday, September 04, 2018</td>
<td>Ghana</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>13</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday, September 06, 2018</td>
<td>Liberia</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>12</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday, September 13, 2018</td>
<td>Guinea</td>
<td>209</td>
<td>47</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday, September 25, 2018</td>
<td>Liberia</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday, September 28, 2018</td>
<td>Togo</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

- On 06 September, UNHCR in Guiglo was able to assist with the safe return of 01 convoy with 12 households of 28 people from Banh Camp in Liberia. All benefited from the
conventional assistance (medical, hot and cold meals, food items, accommodation, transportation, etc.…).

- On 13 September, UNHCR in Guiglo assisted with the safe return of another convoy from N’zerekore in Guinea. In total, 46 households of 209 people were assisted at the Danane’s transit center.

- On September 25th and 28th, 16 Ivorian nationals were repatriated back to Cote D’Ivoire; 01 from Liberia and 15 from Togo.

- Since 2015, a total of 30,496 Ivorian refugees have been repatriated, 28,220 of whom from Liberia and 2,276 from other countries (As of September 30th, 2018).

Assisted Voluntary Returns from December 2015 to September 2018

- As of September 30th, 2018, a total of 1,785 refugees and 241 asylum seekers are registered in Cote d’Ivoire.

- On September 25th, The National Eligibility Commission held a session at DAARA (Direction D’Aide et d’Assistance aux Refugiés et aux Apatrides); out of 10 cases submitted for review: 07 were granted refugee status, 01 was adjourned while 02 applicants were rejected.

Reintegration

- Shelter/Latrines
  13 shelters have been completed.
  65 latrines have been completed.

- Community Empowerment and Self-reliance
  DRAO-LCF (Development Rural et Agricole a L’Ouest); One of UNHCR’s partner on the field, provided equipment to 02 groups both involved in the local transformation of rice and maize in the south-west. 02 other groups, in Katouo and Bianhitouo (West), have started their activities, one of them being with irrigated rice.

- Health
In the context of providing optimal access to reproductive health and HIV services to population in the west:
- on 20 September, 01 mass awareness raising on HIV/AIDS was conducted on in Diboké (Bloléquin) which reached 258 people.
- The peer instructors, led by Caritas, conducted 10 awareness-raising sessions in the west on HIV/AIDS prevention and transmissions mode.

Statelessness

■ Mapping exercise

Between 17-22 September, After leading data collection in zone A (East of the country), the National Institute of Statistics agents involved with the UNHCR mapping exercise, are currently covering zone B, which constitutes the northwest and southwest of the country particularly Gagnoa, Soubre, Daloa, Bouafle, Man, Guiglo, Blolequin, Toulepleu, Zouan-hounien, Touba, Vavoua, Seguela, Divo, Tabou, Odienne, etc.….

The data collection part of the Mapping exercise, which was officially launched August 1st 2018, is set to end on October 13th 2018. The Data analysis will follow right after and final results should be made available early December 2018.

■ Identification

- 15-21 September, 82 people at risk of statelessness were identified. Several were registered on UNHCR Kobo server. 14 were referred to DAARA (Direction d’Aide et D’Assistance aux Refugiés et aux Apatrides) and to the Legal Clinic for further assistance.
- 17-22 September, After leading the surveys in zone A (East), the National Institute of Statistics agents involved with the UNHCR mapping ongoing exercise, are currently covering zone B, which constitutes the northwest and southwest of the country particularly Gagnoa, Soubre, Daloa, Bouafle, Man, Guiglo, Blolequin, Toulepleu, Zouan-hounien, Touba, Vavoua, Seguela, Divo, Tabou, Odienne, etc.….

■ Prevention

- A number of awareness raising sessions on statelessness, nationality and the importance of birth declaration were conducted in various towns in the south west of the country; 155 people were reached out to, including 25 in Tabou, 14 in San Pedro; 25 in Soubre; 28 in Sassandra; 50 in Meagui and 13 in Medibly (Blolequin).
- A focus group was conducted by UNHCR with community leaders in Zuénoula (west). Issues related to statelessness and the importance of birth registration were discussed in depth. During the exchanges, participants advised that the relocation of both the court and the National Identification Office (ONI) in Bouaflé (63 kms away from Zuenoula) constitutes a hindrance to the establishment of civil documents for the majority in Zuénoula and its surroundings.
- An awareness session on statelessness and the importance of birth and death declarations was organized by UNHCR for the ECOWAS Communities in Doropo (far northeast). The
Malian, Burkinabe, Nigerian and Mauritanian communities there informed of the inaccessibility of their respective consulates/embassies (all being in the capital city which is far south). This constitutes a real obstacle to the establishment of consular cards and encourages fraud in some cases. They’ve all urged UNHCR's to advocate for closer consular services.

■ Protection

- On 19 September, AFJCI (Association des Femmes Juristes de Cote D'Ivoire) with UNHCR support delivered late birth certificates for 04 children at one of the Bouake (center) nursery. The director expressed her gratitude to both the Legal clinic and UNHCR. 16 late birth certificates in total were issued by AFJCI to the nursery over the past months.
- 11 additional late births certificates were handed over in the context of the “Right to a Nationality for All” (DNT) project funded by UNHCR in the fight against statelessness. Each PoC received 02 copies of the said document.

■ Communication

- On 03 September, UNHCR in collaboration with DAARA in Guiglo held a group training on statelessness and nationality in Duekoué (west) for local administrative authorities and security forces; 45 people attended the event.
- On 19 September, The US embassy in partnership with UNHCR-CDI held a “Friends of Statelessness” event in the context of the fight against statelessness in Cote D'Ivoire and its reduction by 2024. UNHCR Regional Representative; UNHCR-CDI representative; UNHCR-CDI protection unit; UNICEF; AFD (Agence de Developpement Francaise); the African Development Bank as well as other consulates and embassies interested on the subject attended this friendly and informative event to discuss the subject and see ways to collaborate and support UNHCR’s efforts to reduce statelessness in Cote D'Ivoire.
As the West African Region is affected by the “Asylum and Migrations” phenomenon and Cote D’Ivoire appearing as the country with the highest numbers of illegal migrants arriving in Europe those recent years, UNHCR in Cote D’Ivoire has elaborated a strategy to start addressing the protection aspect of this matter in Cote D’Ivoire. Indeed, an action plan have been submitted to UNHCR Regional Office September 2018 and thankfully the said strategy received full support from the region. The first step, being the analysis and assessment of the situation, will start October 2018, the actual strategy is expected to be fully implemented the beginning of 2018.

Asylum and Migrations

As the West African Region is affected by the “Asylum and Migrations” phenomenon and Cote D’Ivoire appearing as the country with the highest numbers of illegal migrants arriving in Europe those recent years, UNHCR in Cote D’Ivoire has elaborated a strategy to start addressing the protection aspect of this matter in Cote D’Ivoire. Indeed, an action plan have been submitted to UNHCR Regional Office September 2018 and thankfully the said strategy received full support from the region. The first step, being the analysis and assessment of the situation, will start October 2018, the actual strategy is expected to be fully implemented the beginning of 2018.
External / Donors Relations

Special thanks to the major donors of unrestricted and regional funds in 2018
United States of America | UN Peacebuilding Fund

Thanks to other donors of unrestricted and regional funds
Denmark | Private donors in Japan | Peacebuilding Fund, as well as donors of unrestricted and regional funds: United States of America | Sweden | United Kingdom | Italy | Netherlands | Norway | Private donors in Spain | Australia | Japan | Switzerland | France | Canada | UN Program HIV/AIDS | Private donors in Italy.

CONTACTS

Fatoumata Diawara, External Relations Associate
fatoumad@unhcr.org, Tel: +225 75 33 08 53

Jean-Charles KIZIMA, Associate Information Management Officer,
kizima@unhcr.org, Tel: +225 74 80 89 81

LINKS
Country Portal - Ivorian Returnee Situation - Twitter - Facebook - YouTube - LuQuLuQu Campaign