

# Cote d'Ivoire

October 2021

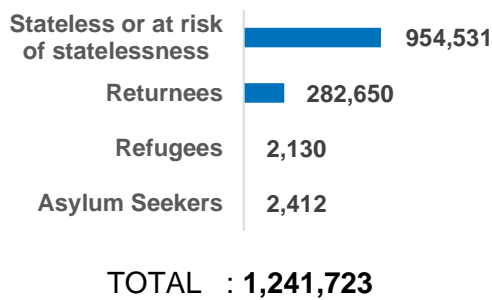
In a context of COVID-19 pandemic, UNHCR assisted with the **voluntary repatriation of 2,257 Ivorians** from Benin, Ghana, Guinea, Liberia and Togo

**High Profile returnees** meeting with UNHCR Representative to share about their reintegration

UNHCR prioritizes **identification, registration and referral of persons at risk of statelessness** these new orientations were given during a workshop in Daloa

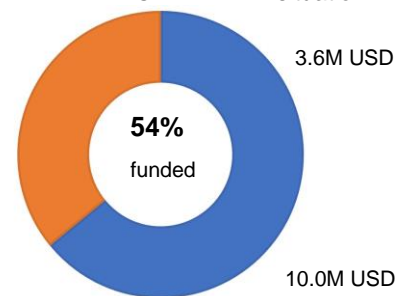
## POPULATION OF CONCERN :

### Côte d'Ivoire



## FUNDING (AS 30 SEPTEMBER 2021)

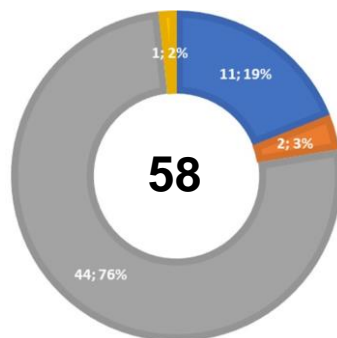
requested for the Côte d'Ivoire situation



## 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**



Map Sources: UNCS and UNHCR  
The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations. Creation date: 17/10/2018.

## 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)*.

UNHCR is grateful for the generous contributions of donors to the Côte d'Ivoire operation: [United States of America](#) | [Germany](#) | [Private donors Australia](#) | [Canada](#) | [Private donors Germany](#) | [France](#) | [Japan](#) | [Luxembourg](#) | [Spain](#) | [Norway](#) | [Private donors](#)

## VOLUNTARY REPATRIATION OF IVORIAN REFUGEES

- VolRep Recap – October 2021.

Date	CoA	Returnees	*Other Of Concern	Household
October 1, 2021	Libéria	22	0	5
October 6, 2021	Libéria	22	0	6
October 8, 2021	Libéria	2	0	1
October 10, 2021	Togo	2	0	2
October 14, 2021	Libéria	159	29	53
October 14, 2021	Guinea	101	0	17
October 16, 2021	Guinea	118	0	27
October 18, 2021	Benin	1	0	1
October 20, 2021	Libéria	152	0	37
October 20, 2021	Libéria	95	0	34
October 22, 2021	Libéria	254	0	61
October 22, 2021	Libéria	103	0	22
October 25, 2021	Libéria	257	0	62
October 27, 2021	Libéria	98	0	24
October 27, 2021	Libéria	255	0	63
October 28, 2021	Ghana	122	0	59
October 29, 2021	Libéria	250	0	71
October 29, 2021	Libéria	89	51	30
October 29, 2021	Ghana	155	1	51
<b>TOTAL OCTOBER 2021</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>2257</b>	<b>81</b>	<b>626</b>

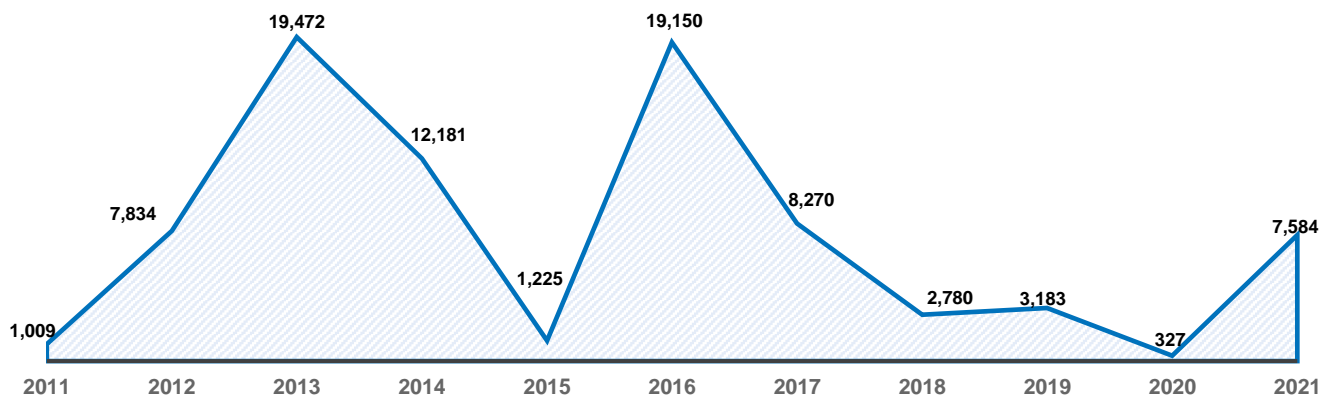
\* **OoC** (Not of Concern) refers to returnees relatives accompanying their Ivorian families

- Since January 2021, a total of **8,402** Ivorian refugees (of whom **89%** from Liberia) have been repatriated with UNHCR assistance.

### Assisted Voluntary Returns from January to 30<sup>th</sup> of October 2021



**82,784** returnees assisted by the UNHCR from 2011 to October 2021



### HIGHLIGHTS

- Following a request for an audience, UNHCR Representative met Mr. Pierre Kipre, former Minister of Education and Ambassador of Cote d'Ivoire to France under the Laurent Gbagbo regime, and Mr. Issa Malick Coulibaly, former deputy director of cabinet and minister of Laurent Gbagbo on Wednesday, October 20. The two personalities expressed their gratitude to UNHCR and their host country for the protection and support offered to them. They have been able to exercise professionally and travel thanks to their refugee cards.

Back in Cote d'Ivoire through the assistance of the UNHCR they expressed their appreciation for the process of reintegration in their country. They mentioned having received their identity card and passport and that the application for a diplomatic passport was also in progress.

They requested further assistance from UNHCR regarding their pension and unpaid salaries issues as well as continuous advocacy for the reintegration of former civil servants in their respective positions.

- Days following this meeting the former financial Services Administrator Katinan Koné Justin, who returned from exile on April 30, 2021, was reinstated to the General Directorate of Taxes on October 21, 2021. The said decree has been shared to CIV return whatsapp group including UNHCR colleagues in COA for information and possible dissemination within refugee camps, as a step towards reintegration of former officials within their respective ministries.
- Identification, registration and referral of persons at risk of statelessness to the National Commission on Eligibility for Stateless Status (CNESA) is the new priority of the Office of the High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) in the fight against statelessness in Côte d'Ivoire. These orientations were given during a capacity building and remobilization workshop organized by UNHCR on the 21-22 October in Daloa. The workshop was the lieu

to access the low number of applications for statelessness status at the CNESA despite wide communication and revise the process of identifying persons at risk of statelessness in order to be more effective.

- UNHCR's High Level Influencer, the Humourist Magnific, paid a courtesy visit to UNHCR Representative. UNHCR thanked the artist for his commitment through awareness and advocacy actions in favour of refugees, returnees, and people at risk of statelessness since 2017. The comedian, for his part, reiterated his availability for the cause of people under the UNHCR mandate. "We are all potential refugees, and I will always be available for people seeking protection," said the artist.



Some staff members posing with the high-level influencer Magnific and the Representative

## MAIN ACHIEVEMENTS

### **PROTECTION**

- According to the protection monitoring conducted with 23 households of 116 returnees, from the 2020-2021 caseload, out of 48 children of school age in the households we were able to enroll in school after returning from asylum. 22.23% in Gbeunta and 8% in Soublaké did not have access to school for various reasons (lack of documents, health problems, lack of financial means to buy school supplies).

44.44% of students living in repatriated households interviewed did not have a birth certificate. In the long run, this situation can be a source of school wastage because without a birth certificate, they will not be able to attend secondary school. However, according to

school principals, repatriated children are effectively integrated into schools in both Gbeunta and Soublaké.

- The governmental partner DAARA conducted a monitoring and advocacy mission for the reintegration of repatriated students in Toulepleu village. It was found that some repatriated children have difficulty enrolling in certain elementary school due to a lack of birth certificates. DAARA made a plea to the school director and the sub-prefect of Toulepleu for the systematic registration of all repatriated children. Furthermore, the authorities wished to have birth certificates issued for all the children of Toulepleu, including those who had not been repatriated.
- Regarding access to property 91.66 percent (11/12) of repatriated households that owned land before fleeing were able to access their properties after returning to their homeland, compared to 75 percent (6/8) of households in Soublaké. 9.34 percent (1/12) of repatriated households that owned land were unable to access some or all of their land in Gbeunta. In Soublaké, 25% (2/8) of repatriated households that own plots of land were unable to access all of their land. The concerned individuals stated that their land is occupied either by members of the same ethnic community in the village or sold to third parties by close relatives.
- Regarding the Refugee Status Determination, interviews were conducted with nine (09) asylum seekers. A Recourse Commission session was also held on October 19, 2021 where three (3) files were rejected, two (2) other files were adjourned due to the absence of the applicants.
- In the fight against statelessness, 80 people were identified as being at risk of statelessness, seventeen amongst them decided to file an application to be referred to the Commission of eligibility for statelessness status.  
A series of activities were organized as part of the sensitization to eradicate statelessness. These included mass sensitization campaigns, workshops, community sensitization, radio outreach and focus groups mobilizing more than 400 people excluding the radio sensitization.  
15 supplementary judgments and 8 certificates of nationality were given to the right holders in were issued during this reporting period.  
Following the protection monitoring conducted during the reporting period on 116 returnees (23 households), 65.51% have a birth certificate against 34.49% who do not. 73.91% of the 23 heads of household interviewed have a national identity card against 26.09% who do not.

## Reintegration

- UNHCR and partners continues to assist person of concern and members of the host communities with the framework of improving self-sufficiency and livelihood. 10 individual IGAs have been set up in the sale of foodstuffs, catering and clothes sales. Likewise, three associations and three groups have been installed to start their activities in Pigs farming, Attieke making and palm oil making.

	Localities	Number of shelters planned for 2021	Number of shelters under construction 2021	Number of shelters remaining to be built by 2021
1	Blolequin	25	26	-1
2	Toulepleu	20	10	10
3	Danane	20	32	-12
4	Zouan Hounien	30	32	-2
5	Tabou	25	20	5
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>120</b>	<b>120</b>	<b>0</b>

## 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.
- Within the framework of the Covid-19 Fund Project for The Self-Employment of Returnees An assessment was conducted by the partner in order to evaluate the IGR activities of 14 repatriated persons, most of whom are women. The findings show that the beneficiaries having difficulty in boosting their activities.

## CONTACTS

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## LINKS

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