

# Update No. 10

## Côte d'Ivoire Situation

14 April 2011



### Highlights

- Last week's cease-fire enabled the Forces de Défense et de Sécurité (FDS) to regroup and take control of the Plateau and Cocody neighbourhoods in Abidjan using small arms and mortar fire. Targets, among others, included the Hôtel du Golfe where the elected President Alassane Dramane Ouattara and his government had been headquartered throughout the conflict.
- Laurent Gbagbo and his wife were arrested on 11 April and removed from the bunker under his residence in the Cocody neighbourhood of Abidjan by the Forces Républicaines de Côte d'Ivoire (FRCI).
- The outgoing president and his wife were held in the custody of Ouattara's forces at the Hôtel du Golfe before being transferred to an unknown location.
- Officials from Ouattara's government announced that Laurent Gbagbo will be tried and brought to justice. The International Criminal Court has expressed its willingness to open an inquiry on the massacres perpetrated and is undertaking a preliminary assessment of the situation in Côte d'Ivoire for possible war crimes and crimes against humanity.
- The European Union relaxed sanctions, releasing the ports of Abidjan and San Pedro from an EU asset freeze and France announced an aid packaged of € 400 million to assist Côte d'Ivoire in recovering from the political crisis.
- During the fighting between the FRCI and FDS, Liberia and Ghana experienced significant influxes of Ivorian refugees and asylum-seekers fleeing from the violence.



Refugees, fleeing from insecurity in Côte d'Ivoire, crowded into a UNHCR truck try to rest on the long and bumpy journey from a border area to Bahn Refugee Camp (Nimba County, Liberia).

UNHCR / G. Gordon / 2011

### Population Movements

Country	Guinea	Burkina Faso	Mali	Ghana	Togo	Benin	Niger	Nigeria	Senegal	Guinea Bissau	Gambia	Sierra Leone
Refugees / Asylum seekers	2,169	78	532	9,716	2,657	94	38	101	41	8	35	10
Liberia	43,978 Ivorian refugees individually registered and 87,884 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.*

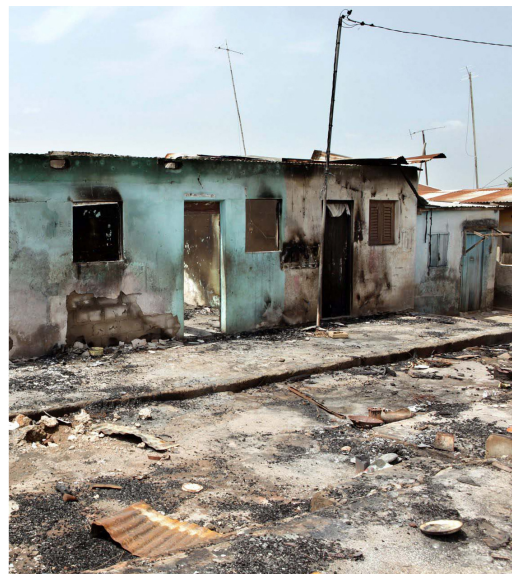
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YEARS



## Financial Information

Contributions Towards UNHCR's Activities in West Africa	
Donor	Contributions (USD)
Australia	2,028,398
Canada	2,335,362
CERF	3,155,737
Denmark	1,843,658
EC/ ECHO	686,813
ECOWAS	500,000
Finland	1,690,913
France	549,451
Germany	1,027,413
Ireland	544,959
Norway	1,431,127
Private donors	210,046
Rep. of Korea	300,000
Switzerland	637,767
UN Population Fund	119,840
United Kingdom	7,211,538
United States of America	10,300,000
<b>TOTAL (*)</b>	<b>34,573,022</b>

(\*) Luxembourg donated an additional USD 87,015 towards UNHCR's initial response to the emergency in Côte d'Ivoire in December 2010.



A torched house in the Guéré neighbourhood of Duékoué - inter-ethnic clashes caused the deaths of over 800 people (UNHCR / Caux / 2011).

## Country Operations

### COTE D'IVOIRE

Violence continues in pockets throughout Abidjan, where law and order needs to be restored urgently. Population movements out of Abidjan have decreased significantly since the arrest of Laurent Gbagbo, but Ivorians continue to move towards the western border with Liberia.

Massive logistical efforts are underway by all UN agencies and humanitarian partners to provide assistance, including the chartering of a ship to move up and down the coastline with supplies.

#### • Protection

Protection coordination efforts are well underway. UNHCR went on a joint monitoring mission to two (2) internally displaced persons' (IDP) sites in Danané with implementing partner Afrique Secours et Assistance (ASA) on 8 April.

The first temporary IDP site (SATD 1) has been completed and is hosting **649** individuals, while the second site (SATD 2), still under construction, is hosting **605** persons who were transferred from the Dioulabougou 2 School on 11 April. UNOCI will work on site rehabilitation, while the Société de Distribution D'eaux de la Côte d'Ivoire (SODECI) works to provide access to water. UNICEF is finalizing the installation of latrines, and Compagnie Ivoirienne d'Electricité (CIE) is connecting the electricity.

In just one day, over 100 bodies were discovered in Duékoué, Bloléquin and Guiglo. Fear of inter-ethnic violence following the disintegration of law and order has forced countless Ivorians into hiding in the forests of western Côte d'Ivoire. There are regular incidents of people travelling long distances found suffering from exhaustion. Some IDPs reported being harassed by youth on the basis of their ethnicity.

#### • Humanitarian Assistance

UNHCR dispatched stocks of non-food items stored in warehouses within Côte d'Ivoire and distributed household kits to assist thousands of displaced persons.

The World Food Programme shipped 85 tons of food to the region and Action Contre la Faim (ACF) began the distribution of 24 tons of emergency supplies in western Côte d'Ivoire.

Likewise, in the health sector, ICRC is shipping medical supplies to Côte d'Ivoire, while Médecins sans Frontières (MSF) continues to deliver medical supplies throughout Abidjan where possible. Certain areas of the city remain inaccessible due to conflict-related insecurity. MSF also warns against the high risk of a potential cholera outbreak in Abidjan.

### LIBERIA

**43,978** refugees have so far been registered individually, while **88,599** arrivals during influxes were accounted for through rapid emergency registration. UNHCR continues to update the database.

In addition to these numbers, the UNHCR Field Office in Harper reported an influx of about **10,000** Ivorian refugees into Maryland County this week. In response, 60 registration clerks have been hired to conduct the rapid registration of an estimated **6,326** persons currently being assisted at the Bishop Ferguson Transit Centre. In the meantime, Caritas is providing the refugees with two (2) hot meals per day, while UNICEF and OXFAM are providing water to the transit centre. WFP distributed high protein biscuits at the Duokudi, Deketown and Kablaken border entry points where this week's influx occurred.

In Nimba County, where **51,091** individuals were accounted for through rapid emergency registration, new figures will soon be provided following a joint verification exercise by UNHCR, the Liberia Refugee Repatriation Resettlement Commission (LRRRC), and the Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC), which began on 12 April.

#### • Protection

New arrivals from western Côte d'Ivoire continued to report dangerous travel conditions during their journey.

This week in Grand Gedeh County, **195** refugees crossed through the B'hai Jozon border during the night of 7 April, **420** individuals entered at Druwar (4 April) and **138** at Bgarwa (5 April). In addition, Ivoirians reportedly in Beh (**500**) and Togbalee (**1,039**) towns were verified on 7 April.

German Agro Action (GAA) is currently de-stumping the Ziah camp site and Concern is constructing latrines where refugees will be relocated.

Samaritan's Purse opened an office in Saclepea to specialize in psycho-social support and vocational skills training for refugees. The Danish Refugee Council (DRC) will work with refugees with specific needs in host communities. REECE (a national NGO) plans to organize peace-building education activities. UNFPA is establishing activities for the provision of Minimum Initial Services Packages for reproductive support and information for HIV prevention as well as gender-based violence prevention and response.

Sexual Gender-based Violence (SGBV) incidents are being handled by EQUIP in 16 host communities and by Save the Children in Bahn Camp. EQUIP provides information, basic psycho-social counselling and legal assistance to both perpetrators and survivors. Save the Children also provides psycho-social counselling.

Medical support is provided to SGBV survivors by Médecins sans Frontières at camp level as well as the Saclepea Comprehensive Health Centre and the G.W. Harley Hospital in Sanniquellie. Referral pathways exist through the County Gender Offices.

#### • Humanitarian Assistance

UNHCR held a coordination meeting on 9 April to discuss food distribution, registration, security, accommodation and general camp management issues related to the Harper influx. The site for Little Wlebo Refugee Camp in Maryland County was identified by UNHCR and the LRRRC on 8 April. Plans are under discussion to establish a transit centre at the camp location while the site is being cleared.

NRC is in the process of completely phasing out the provision of shelter construction for refugees at Bahn Refugee Camp after completing the 250 shelters still underway. In the future, wooden frames will be provided to the refugees who will finish the walling themselves.

Also in Nimba County, an inter-agency WASH assessment began on 11 April. Four (4) blocks of latrines with six (6) stalls each as well as four (4) blocks of bath shelters were completed at Zorgoewe.

Meanwhile, in Grand Gedeh County, site preparation continues at the Ministry of Agriculture transit centre.

Focus group discussions are ongoing at camp level to improve camp coordination, fill immediate gaps, and avoid duplication of basic services. In addition, an informal refugee leadership structure is being established at Bahn Refugee Camp, whereby each block is represented by one president, one female president and one youth president. The organization of a formal camp committee will be done in coordination with the LRRRC and NRC.

While the construction of temporary classrooms at Bahn Camp is ongoing, **608** children are attending classes at the camp transit centre. Newly recruited teachers and staff are being trained in concert with the student registration, establishment of a parent-teacher association, and distribution of scholastic material and recreation kits.

The French-English language barrier is affecting adolescent boys and girls of secondary school level who will not be able to understand the lessons taught at schools in host communities. English language classes are proposed for these students in order to include them in the Liberian school system next year. Furthermore, UNHCR plans to identify scholarships and establish vocational and skills training to target this group.

In Janzon Town, where refugee needs are stretching the capacity of the local health clinic, UNHCR provided two (2) tents to increase space and is determining how best to make the clinic functional around the clock, in collaboration with Tiyatien Health for referrals. Action is also being taken to provide medical supplies, and repair the water point.

Food distribution in Nimba County served thousands of Ivoirians in Beo-Yoolar, Tartuo, and Bahn. In Grand Gedeh, thousands of refugees were served in Bawaydee Town, Peah Town and Garley Town.

The United Kingdom's Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for International Development (UKAID), Stephen O'Brien MP and the British Ambassador to Liberia led a delegation to visit Nimba County on 6 April. They visited Bahn Refugee Camp and UNHCR Saclepea where they met with Save the Children, ICRC, IRC, UNICEF, WFP and UNHCR. The team expressed their interest in raising awareness of the Ivorian refugee situation in Europe.

## GHANA

There are currently **9,716** Ivoirians registered in Ghana. This number is expected to surpass **10,000** once Ivoirians staying in host communities are able to report to UNHCR and/or Ghanaian authorities for individual registration.

#### • Protection

Mapping of host communities is ongoing to capture data on all refugees and ensure that no double registrations have taken place.

UNHCR's implementing partner, National Catholic Services (NCS), is working to address the concerns of older persons (above age 60) who have chronic diseases or specific dietary needs, or who complain of body pains from sleeping on mats.

UNHCR is in the process of identifying partners to implement activities related to sexual and gender-based violence.

#### • Humanitarian Assistance

UNHCR received authorization from the National Disaster Management Organization (NADMO) National Coordinator to develop new sites at Egeikrom in the Central Region and Fatentaa in Brong Ahafo. The Eagle Star Reception Centre will be phased out and Ampain Refugee Camp will become a reception centre and transit camp once the new sites are able to receive refugees.

Ampain Refugee Camp is at capacity with 559 tents occupied. Final arrangements are therefore expected to be made this week to begin work on Egeikrom site in the Central Region. The Site Planner/WASH Engineer went on mission to Berekum on 11 April to produce a site plan for Fatentaa, which lacks infrastructure completely. Once both sites are cleared, tents will be erected along with sanitation facilities and refugees will be relocated immediately.

The process to identify implementing partners for water and sanitation in the camps is underway.

In Ampain, three (3) additional boreholes with hand pumps were constructed this week, and two (2) more are expected to be set up with an electrical distribution system during the week. This will enable UNHCR to discontinue the distribution of sachet water. The number of latrines and bath shelters is still inadequate.

In Berekum, sachet water distribution continues, with the water tanker still under repair. A water and sanitation expert is working with UNHCR's health partner – NCS – in the ongoing construction of latrines.

Ghana Education Service authorities visited Ampain Camp to follow-up ongoing discussions with UNHCR and UNICEF on education activities for refugee children.

Health services at Kassap Camp are provided by staff from a local private hospital on weekdays, including transport to the hospital for emergency referrals. At Ampain, Ghana Health Services continues to maintain a presence and provide emergency transport.

UNHCR provides feeding (including supplementary feeding for malnourished children and all children under 6 months) at Ampain and Kassap, while the distribution of WFP food in transit to Kassap and Ampain will begin soon.

Following a visit two weeks ago, Ecobank expressed interest in supporting the Government (in collaboration with UNHCR/NCS) with the construction of latrines. In-kind donations were provided by a women's group from Accra (GHS 5,000 to Ampain Camp), and the Ghana Health Services (clothes, sachet water food and sanitary items to Ampain Camp).

## GUINEA

The total number of Ivorian refugees registered in Guinea now stands at **2,169** - with **1,956** (781 households) in the N'Zerekore Forest Region and **213** in Conakry.

#### • Protection

**447** new arrivals in the N'Zerekore Forest Region were registered by UNHCR and the Bureau Régional d'Intégration et du Statut de Réfugiés (BRISR).

This week **598** individuals were transferred to Kouankan I and II and provided with food rations and household kits. This brings the total number of Ivorians in the camps to **1,052** individuals as of 11 April, with **363** individuals still in the N'Zerekore transit centre awaiting transfer to Kouankan.

**496** individuals chose to remain in host communities within the Lola and Beyla prefectures.

#### • Humanitarian Assistance

A water and sanitation needs assessment was jointly conducted by UNHCR, UNICEF, ODIC, and DRC on 8 April. UNICEF donated three (3) 10,000 litre water tanks to UNHCR to improve the water supply at Kouankan I and II camps. As a part of the process to ensure WASH standards are upheld, DRC provided access to water at the primary school.

The primary school was also rehabilitated with an attached latrine block. Newly enrolled Ivorian refugee students received uniforms and the classrooms were equipped with chairs and tables. Health services available at Kouankan II are being stretched to the limit by the new arrivals.

UNHCR conducted a joint monitoring mission with BRISR, WFP, IOM and SENAH and UNFPA to Sinko and Foubadou. During the mission, **976** Guinean returnees were found to be spread throughout host communities in Sinko, Gbessoba, Diaradou and Saaran.

## BURKINA FASO

There are **78** Ivorian asylum-seekers registered by the Commission Nationale pour les Réfugiés (CONAREF) in Burkina Faso. Of these, **75** individuals are in Ouagadougou, and three (**3**) others are in different towns. In addition, IOM reports that an estimated 70,000 – 80,000 Burkinabés have returned from Côte d'Ivoire.

UNICEF will install four (4) boreholes, rehabilitate one (1) borehole and provide slabs for 90 latrines at the Dakola Reception Centre.

## TOGO

Over **600** refugees arrived in Lomé this week bringing the total to **2,657** registered Ivorian refugees in Togo.

The Tropicana Camp site in Golf Prefecture was set-up with tents to accommodate 500 refugees, along with 20 latrines (10 for women and 10 for men) as well as 20 bath shelters. The site is connected to electricity and has a water storage tank.

Camp security is being provided by a team consisting of five (5) gendarmes and five (5) police. The first convoy of refugees is planned for 14 April. Students will be enrolled in school according to their age and level.

At the Humanitarian Coordination Meeting held on 8 April, UNICEF proposed to take responsibility for the vaccination of all Ivorian child refugees relocated to the new Tropicana site.

UNHCR along with implementing partners (ATBEF and CNAR) held a meeting with the Ivorian refugees to determine their protection and assistance needs.

## **NIGERIA**

There are **101** registered Ivorian asylum-seekers in Nigeria as of 11 April. UNHCR assisted **27** individuals with mosquito nets, blankets, cooking stoves, cooking utensils, mats and food items. UNHCR's implementing partner, the Nigerian National Commission for Refugees (NCFR) provided a monthly subsistence allowance for four (4) households to cover accommodation and sustenance

## **MALI**

There are **532** registered Ivorian asylum-seekers in Mali (as of 11 April). The initial refugees recognized as *prima facie* by the Commission Nationale Chargée des Réfugiés (CNCR) have already received refugee identity cards.

The Faragouaran transit centre constructed by GAA is ready, as are the two (2) new boreholes installed by World Vision. UNHCR requested WFP to provide food distribution until the refugees are transferred to Faragouaran, while UNHCR procures food locally.

A representative from the ECOWAS went on mission to Bamako on 4 April and visited the Faragouaran site to evaluate the Ivorian situation on the ground.

## **BENIN**

There are **94** Ivorian asylum-seekers in Benin. Caritas is taking care of the needs of the urban refugees as well as those in the sites.

## **SIERRA LEONE**

The National Commission for Social Action (NaCSA) registered two (2) families of ten (10) Ivorian new arrivals this week.

## **MAPS AND OTHER INFORMATION**

Visit the [UNHCR Côte d'Ivoire website](#) for more information (including maps and other documents).



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