



HIGHLIGHTS

116

Ivorian refugees repatriated in November 2016 despite weather and technical challenges

19,022

Ivorian refugees repatriated since 18 December 2015

41

New birth registrations during November 2016

19,391

Ivorian Refugees remaining in Liberia as of November 2016

Population of concern

A total of **19,858** Persons of Concern

By country of origin

Country	Total PoC
Côte-d'Ivoire refugees	19,391
Sierra Leonean refugees	375
Various nationality refugees	68
Asylum seekers	24
Total	19,858
Others of concern	1,479

Funding

USD 23,860,907 requested

7% funded

UNHCR Presence

Offices

- 1 Country Office in Monrovia
- 1 Sub-Office in Zwedru
- 2 Field Offices in Harper and Saclepea

Staff

- 92 national staff
- 23 international staff

Liberia: Operational map

UNHCR - HQ 02 Feb 2015



The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.
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WORKING WITH PARTNERS

UNHCR works with the Government of Liberia through the Liberia Refugee Repatriation and Resettlement Commission (LRRRC) and provides funding to the following NGOs: Africa Humanitarian Action (AHA), African Initiatives for Relief and Development (AIRD), and Special Emergency Activity to Restore Children's Hope (SEARCH), to implement assistance in favour of refugees. Finnish Refugee Council, an operational partner supports adult literacy in PTP and Bahn camps.

CONTEXT HIGHLIGHTS

After two and a half months suspension of the voluntary repatriation of the Ivorian refugees due to bad road conditions, voluntary repatriation was resumed on 18 November 2016 allowing to repatriate 116 Ivorian refugees from Maryland County to Cote d'Ivoire.

Repatriation did not yet resume in other locations such as Nimba, River Gee, and Grand-Gedeh Counties due to heavy rain and bad road conditions.

MAIN ACTIVITIES

Protection

- Voluntary repatriation remains a key operational priority.** 116 refugees were repatriated to Cote d'Ivoire during this period. This brings the total number of refugees repatriated since the resumption of the repatriation programme on 18 December 2015 to 19,022 refugees, and out of them 17,908 have returned since January 2016, including 25 unaccompanied children reunited with their families by the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC).
- Mission to Re-vet Red-Coded Cases.** The mission to re-vet former Liberian refugees who were at risk of statelessness, as a result of the Government of Liberia red-coding them on nationality grounds, continues. The team was in Ghana from 31 October 2016 to 25 November, where 251 persons out of the 364 red coded were processed with an additional 38 dependents making a total of 289 processed cases in that country. 5 persons are still maintained as red coded as they were unable to show their ties to Liberia. The Bureau of Immigration and naturalization (BIN) will provide written reasons for the denial of Liberian citizenship. The team had previously visited Gambia, Guinea, Nigeria and Senegal. 369 cases out of the total 910 cases have been processed and a further 146 dependents were processed bringing the total processed to 515.
- Education Transition continues.** The process of integrating refugees' education into the national structure is in progress. The Ministry of Education has nominated the Principals that will head the refugee schools in both Bahn and Little Wlebo camps. The recruitment for a Principal to manage the PTP camp school is still on-going. The transition from Ivorian curriculum to Liberian curriculum will gradually begin in the second semester (February – June 2017).
- Age Gender and Diversity (AGD) Assessments.** The 2016 AGD Participatory Assessments took place both in refugee camps and refugee hosting communities in 5 counties. The assessment was conducted in coordination with key stakeholders, including the Ministry of Education, Ministry of Gender, Ministry of Health, partners (LRRRC, SEARCH, AHA, and AIRD) and refugees. The assessment revealed that while urban refugees have strong coping mechanisms, they face severe challenges in accessing education and livelihood skills, as well as finding jobs. Access to micro loans and skills training are some of their concerns. Refugees in the camps and communities were concerned about the continued support of UNHCR and particularly with access to fertile land, which would enhance their ability to become self-sufficient. Refugees requested support with existing income generating activities (IGA), and additional support to develop new IGAs and skills trainings for them. Refugee children requested support with secondary education after they complete primary school.
- IBelong campaign.** The Branch Office Monrovia, in partnership with the Liberia Refugee Repatriation and Resettlement Commission (LRRRC), and Church Aid Incorporated, commemorated the 2nd anniversary of the 10-year global IBelong campaign, which is aimed at eradicating statelessness. Activities intended to boost birth registration as a means of addressing issues of potential statelessness in Liberia, where birth registration and certification continue to be a key challenge.

Celebration of 16 Days of Activism

- UNHCR Liberia joined this year's 16 Days of Activism (25 November-10 December) through several informative sessions and activities following the Global Theme "From Peace in the Home to Peace in the World; Make Education Safe for All" and the National Theme: "From Peace in the Home to Peace in the World; Stop Domestic Violence, End Child Marriage while Educating All".



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