

# GHANA

## AMPAIN REFUGEE CAMP BRIEFING NOTES

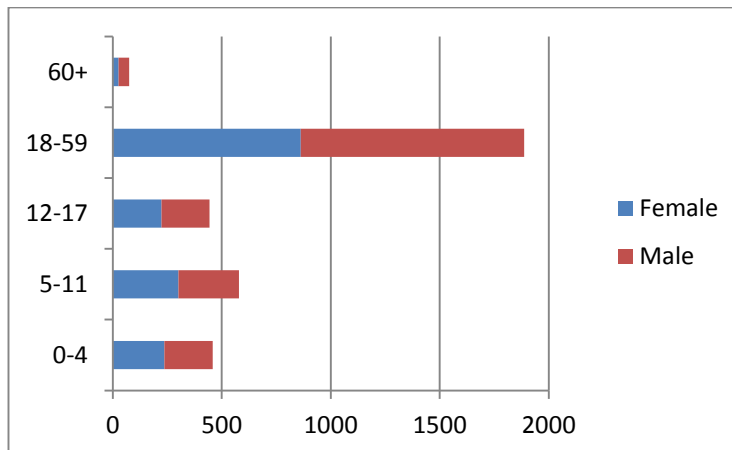
March 2017



### CAMP OVERVIEW

Established on 19 March, 2011, the Ampain Refugee Camp which is located in the Ellembelle District of the Western Region of Ghana, was the first of three camps established in 2011 to shelter displaced Ivoirians fleeing the hostilities following the November 2010 Presidential elections held in Côte d'Ivoire. The current population of the camp is 3,442 persons of concern (PoC). This number is made up primarily of presumed Ivoirian nationals with a little over 1% being other nationals who were in Côte d'Ivoire at the time of the crisis. The Government of Ghana provides assistance in the provision of camp management through the National Disaster Management Organization (NADMO) and the general oversight of operations through the Ghana Refugee Board. UNHCR continues to receive favourable collaborations from Ghana Refugee Board, Ghana Immigration Service, Ghana Education Service, Police, the District and the Municipal Assemblies, as well as the Ghana Health Service.

**Fig 1: Ampain Camp Population | By Gender and Age group**



#### Quick facts

- Date established: **March 2011**
- Location: **Ellembelle District, Western Region**
- Camp population: **3,442**
- Country of Origin: **Côte d'Ivoire**
- Size of camp area: **32 acres**
- Number of partners working in camp: **3**

## WORKING WITH PARTNERS

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Partnership is central to UNHCR's work, in particular in the search for durable solutions and provision of equal access to basic services and fostering sustainable livelihoods. At the camp level, UNHCR works closely with the Ghana Refugee Board (GRB) and Implementing Partners who are responsible for implementing UNHCR's protection and mixed solutions programming. The National Catholic Secretariat (NCS) is responsible for Nutrition, shelter, Supplementary feeding and Non-food items. GRB implements WASH and lighting activities. The Christian Council of Ghana (CCG) is responsible for Basic Education for refugees, and the Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA) is responsible for implementing livelihood programmes which include skills training, apprenticeship programmes, small business support, English proficiency classes and agriculture. UNHCR cooperates with state agencies such as Ghana Immigration Services, Ghana Health Services, Ghana Education Service, Department of Social Development, Domestic Violence and Victim Support Unit (DOVVSU) and other relevant government agencies and departments in ensuring asylum-seekers and refugees have effective access to basic and protection services. UNHCR also receives operational support from UNFPA, IOM and UNAIDS.

## KEY ACTIVITIES



### Protection

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- Provision of protection counseling services to PoCs.
- Facilitation of Voluntary repatriation of PoCs upon request (within the context of the Tripartite Agreement).
- Identification and submission of potential cases for resettlement consideration.
- Follow up of individual cases which require support to ensure timely assistance is offered.



### Camp Coordination

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- Conduct quarterly coordination meeting attended by Implementing Partners and Operational Partners at the UNHCR Field Office in Takoradi.
- Conduct bi-monthly Camp Management meeting chaired by Camp Manager at the refugee camp attended by Implementing Partners and the refugee leadership council.

## SUCCESS/ACHIEVEMENTS

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- iFellow Shelter Project – Under this project, refugees are being provided with training and material support to enable them build more durable shelters using locally available building materials.
- Nurses' quarters constructed and handed over to Ghana Health Service to provide accommodation for health staff posted to run the health facility in Ampain.
- As part of the process of integrating refugee healthcare into Ghana Health Service, UNHCR has enrolled refugees onto the National Health Insurance Scheme (NHIS), and built a health facility according to Ghana Health Service standards to increase access to state health facilities.
- A fire post has been built for the fire officer stationed in the camp.
- 5-room quarters have been built for use by the Ghana Police Service personnel as part of measures to ensure adequate security of PoCs.

## CHALLENGES

- Difficulty in solid waste management in the camps due to high costs of service.
- No age appropriate activities for children and young teens due to discontinuation of child friendly space programme following the withdrawal of Life Relief Foundation (A local NGO engaged by UNICEF). Volunteers trained by UNICEF/LRF have abandoned the programme due to lack of funding to pay allowances.
- Low quality of shelter in the camp, with over 80% of PoCs still living in emergency plastic sheet tents since 2011.
- Difficulty in securing more scholarships for refugee youth for secondary as well as tertiary education.
- Lack of school feeding programme for the camp primary school.
- Challenge to livelihood opportunities due to limited funds for refugee business initiatives, and unavailability of farming land near the refugee camp

## CAMP PHOTOS:



UNHCR is grateful for the generous contributions of donors who have given un-earmarked funding to UNHCR worldwide as well as donors who have contributed directly to UNHCR's programmes in West Africa in 2017:

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