



HIGHLIGHTS

18,904

Ivorian refugees repatriated since 18 December 2015

46

Passports for former Sierra Leonean refugees submitted for the issuance of naturalization certificates

4

Missions undertaken to vet red-coded cases

19,426

Ivorian Refugees remaining in Liberia as of October 2016

Population of concern

A total of **19,893** Persons of Concern

By country of origin

Country	Total PoC
Côte-d'Ivoire refugees	19,426
Sierra Leonean refugees	375
Various nationality refugees	68
Asylum seekers	24
Total	19,893
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. Printing date: 02 Feb 2015 Sources: UNHCR Feedback: mapping@unhcr.org Filename: lbr_factsheetmap_26-01-2015

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

- **Cote d'Ivoire reopens western borders closed during the Ebola epidemic.** Cote d'Ivoire re-opened its western borders with Liberia and Guinea on 8 September 2016, two years after they were closed to prevent the spread of an Ebola epidemic that killed thousands mainly in Liberia, Guinea and Sierra Leone. The closure of the border did not affect UNHCR operation due to the fact that a humanitarian corridor was opened in December 2015 for the voluntary repatriation of Ivorian refugees.
- Refugee voluntary repatriation was suspended in on 1st September 2016 as a result of bad road conditions due to the heavy rainy season.

MAIN ACTIVITIES

Protection

- **Voluntary repatriation remains an operational priority.** Since the resumption of voluntary repatriation in December 2015, 18,904 Ivorian refugees have been assisted to return to Cote d'Ivoire, out of which, 17,790 returned since January 2016.
- **Family Reunification.** With the assistance of ICRC, 20 Unaccompanied and Separated Children (UASC) have been reunited with their families in Cote d'Ivoire. As they are provided with Voluntary Repatriation Forms (VRF's), the UASC received a returnee package upon arrival in Cote d'Ivoire.
- **Cross Border Meeting.** Representatives of the Governments of Liberia and Cote d'Ivoire and UNHCR held a two-day cross border meeting on the 27 and 28 of September in the city of Man in the West of Cote d'Ivoire. This is the first cross border meeting held since the resumption of voluntary repatriation in December 2015. Among the crucial issues discussed were registration and documentation for refugees, birth certification challenges, preparation and reception of convoys and information sharing on both sides. The next cross border meeting is scheduled for March 2017 in Liberia.
- **Mission to Re-vet Red-Coded Cases.** Four missions were undertaken to Gambia, Guinea, Nigeria and Senegal by the Government of Liberia to re-vet former Liberian refugees who were red-coded as a result of the Government of Liberia raising doubts about their Liberia nationality. There are 910 ex-Liberian refugees who remain in their countries of asylum in the sub region without Liberian documentation. In total, 226 cases out of 910 cases have been processed. The fifth mission left for Ghana on 31 October 2016. Ghana has the biggest cases of Red Coded individuals in the region, a total of 364 individuals.
- **Solutions for Sierra Leoneans.** LRRRC submitted to the Criminal Court B in Monrovia, 46 Sierra Leonean passports with resident permits for the issuing of certificates of naturalization. The Criminal Court B handles immigration matters. The passports are for former Sierra Leonean refugees who opted for local integration in 2008 when the cessation clauses were invoked. The local integration process for Sierra Leonean former refugees is still ongoing and some 1,479 refugees who opted for local integration are being processed.



Food

- After four months interruption of food distribution from WFP due to financial constraints, with limited funds that WFP received from donors, UNHCR and WFP agreed to move to targeted distribution mainly for extremely and highly vulnerable refugees which number around 6,000 individuals.

TRANSITION TO LOCAL INTEGRATION

Education

- **UNHCR preparations towards transition of Refugee Education.** In line with UNHCR's strategy to move to Alternatives to Camps in 2017, the government of Liberia has accepted the integration of refugee education into the national educational system and a Technical Working Group (TWG) has been set up to map out a comprehensive strategy for implementation of the transition. The TWG is chaired by the Deputy Minister of Education. The first semester for academic 2016/2017 school year (September 2016 – February 2017) in the camps will continue with the Ivorian curriculum, while the gradual curriculum transition from the Ivorian to Liberian curriculum will begin in the second semester (February – June 2017).

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