



HIGHLIGHTS

18,884

Ivorian refugees repatriated since 18 December 2015

950

Ivorian refugees repatriated in the reporting period

150

Birth certificates distributed

1,487

Ivorian refugees reached with SGBV messages

Population of concern

A total of **19,379** Persons of Concern

By country of origin

Country	Total PoC
Côte-d'Ivoire refugees	19,379
Sierra Leonean refugees	375
Various nationality refugees	68
Asylum seekers	24
Total	19,846
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

- 93 national staff
- 23 international staff



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 coordinates humanitarian assistance with: Africa Humanitarian Action (AHA), African Initiatives for Relief and Development (AIRD), and Special Emergency Activity to Restore Children's Hope (SEARCH). Finnish Refugee Council (FRC), an operational partner supports adult literacy in PTP and Bahn camps.

CONTEXT HIGHLIGHTS

- Mr. Yacoub El Hillo was appointed as Deputy Special Representative to the Secretary General (DSRSG) in the United Nations Mission in Liberia (UNMIL). Mr. El Hillo succeeds Mr Antonio Vigilante who concluded his assignment on 15 June 2016. He will also serve as the United Nations Resident Coordinator and Resident Representative of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) in Liberia. Among many other positions, he has previously served as the Director for the Middle East and North Africa in the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) in Geneva.

MAIN ACTIVITIES

Protection

- Voluntary repatriation remains an operational priority.** Since the resumption of the voluntary repatriation process in December 2015, a total of 18,884 Ivorian refugees (14,406 from the camps and 4,478 from the communities) have been assisted to return home. Of these, 17,770 have returned since January 2016. Voluntary repatriation will remain at the core of the solutions strategy with the objective of assisting 25,000 Ivorian refugees to return in 2016 and a further 8,000 returns in 2017.
- Refugee General Food Distribution.** Following a UNHCR – WFP joint food security and vulnerability assessment conducted in the three refugee camps in May, and the end of the WFP Protracted Relief and Recovery Operation project in July, UNHCR is recommending the continuation of food distribution as a majority of the refugees remain vulnerable. The results of the assessment have been developed into a proposal and WFP is sourcing for funding from donors.
- Mission to Re-vet Red Coded Cases.** UNHCR's Protection section provided orientation for a 3 member government team who will be undertaking a pilot mission to Gambia as a start to re-vetting the 910 former Liberian refugees who remain in their countries of asylum in the sub region without Liberian documentation.
- Advocacy for Review of the Alien and Nationality Law.** Successful advocacy by UNHCR has resulted in the review of the Alien and Nationality Law. So far four review meetings have been carried out. Two in June and another two in August 2016 where UNHCR has advocated with the Government for the amendment of some key legal provisions which are discriminatory against Liberian women or biased against certain categories of person entering Liberia. The Alien & Nationality Law (ANL) review team received and consolidated inputs to the first draft circulated after two working sessions conducted in June 2016. A review conference was attended by key stakeholders on 9 August 2016 to present the most current draft ahead of the validation session which was held on 12 August 2016. Another planned review conference will bring together relevant stakeholders apart from the technical stakeholders to look at and/or critique all components of the current draft. All stakeholders have not objected to the removal of the clause in the Law which is biased towards Liberian women passing on their nationality to their children born with non-Liberian men and born outside of Liberia which is very commendable. The review process however cannot remove the racial bias as this is still entrenched in the 1986 Liberian Constitution.

Education

- UNHCR preparations towards transition of Refugee Education.** UNHCR met with officials of the Ministry of Education to discuss the proposal of UNHCR to transition from the Ivorian to the Liberian curriculum. It has been planned that refugee education will be integrated into the national educational system starting from the next academic year in September 2016. The government of Liberia has accepted the proposal and indicated that a technical working group will be set up to map out a comprehensive strategy for implementation of the transition.
- Study Clubs to learn English.** In preparation for the start of the Liberian curriculum in the refugee schools, study clubs were started to teach English language to the refugee students. 149 students are currently enrolled in the study clubs which are run by UNHCR's partner SEARCH in the three camp locations.

Others

- UNHCR shows support for UNWomen "Orange Day" Campaign.** UNHCR showed support for "Orange Day", which is a #UNWomen initiative to raise awareness and prevent violence against women and girls, especially for those who have been forced flee their homes due to war and human rights abuses. The theme for August was 'Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full employment and decent work for all'.



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