



## HIGHLIGHTS

**876**

Refugees repatriated during February 2017

**3,005**

Students enrolled in total in all Primary schools in PTP, Little Wlebo and Bahn camp.

**20,724**

Ivorian refugees repatriated since 18 December 2015

**17,378**

Ivorian refugees remaining in Liberia as of 28 February 2017

## Population of concern

A total of **17,833** Persons of Concern

By country of origin

Country	Total PoC
Côte-d'Ivoire refugees	17,378
Sierra Leonean refugees	376
Various nationality refugees	62
Asylum seekers	17
<b>Total</b>	<b>17,833</b>
Others of concern	1,479

## Funding

**USD 16,194,818** requested

0% funded

## UNHCR Presence

### Offices

- 1 Country Office in Monrovia
- 1 Sub-Office in Zwedru
- 1 Field Office in Harper

### Staff

- 72 national staff
- 14 international staff

## Liberia

### Reference map

as of 06 Apr 2017



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: 06 Apr 2017 Sources: UNCG, UNHCR Author: UNHCR - HQ Geneva Feedback: mapping@unhcr.org Filename: lb\_reference

## 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

- Ahead of the presidential and legislative elections that will take place in October 2017, the Voters' Registration (VR) exercise started on 01 February 2017 and completes on 14 March 2017. The Elections Coordinating Committee (ECC) flagged irregularities in the process, and Police Officers are investigating cases of double registration and purchasing voter registration cards in several counties. Voters' Registration has also exposed the need for National Identification (ID) System; the House of Representatives is reviewing the option to fund the production and release of National ID cards for all Liberians. National Identification is one of the commitments the Liberian government made during the Abidjan Declaration in February 2015.
- The Inter-Agency Programmatic Team (IAPT) in Liberia met on 02 February 2017 to discuss the implementation of a capacity mapping exercise to support UNMIL drawdown in March 2018. Through a data collection approach, the aim is to ensure a smooth transition in line with the UNCT capabilities as well as the implementation of the UNDAF/AFTII and Peacebuilding Plan. On 23 February, UNMIL and UNDP supported the Liberia Peacebuilding Office (PBO) in holding consultations on the draft Peacebuilding Plan for Liberia with civil society organisations (CSOs).

## MAIN ACTIVITIES

### Protection

- **Voluntary repatriation remains a key operational priority.** UNHCR, in collaboration with the Liberia Refugee Repatriation and Resettlement Commission (LRRRC), continues the voluntary repatriation of refugees in Grand Gedeh, Nimba, River Gee, and Maryland counties, who are opting to return to Cote d'Ivoire. Throughout February 2017, 876 refugees returned home. This includes 1 UAM (Unaccompanied Minors) who returned to Cote d'Ivoire in collaboration with the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC). This brings the total number of refugees repatriated since the resumption of the repatriation programme on 18 December 2015 to 20,724 refugees. Voluntary repatriation will be carried out until 30 June 2017.
- **Education and Health Transition continues.** On 07 February 2017, UNHCR met with LRRRC, SEARCH, AHA and County and District Health and Education teams to discuss the transition process of refugee health and education services towards the absorption of these services into national structures. On 20 February 2017, classes resumed in all primary schools at the three refugee camps for the start of the second semester and the Liberian principals and teachers work with 28 bilingual refugee teachers. Following the introduction of the Liberian curriculum as part of the integration process of Ivorian refugees in Liberia, classes are now in English and French, and fully in English from pre-grade to third grade. The primary school from Bahn Community has merged with the camp schools, and has been named 'Bahn High Extension School'. UNHCR and the National County Health team continue their discussions on the transition of health facilities in the camps. In Bahn the Government has already taken over some activities and integrated them to the existing national health facility to be used both by refugees and the host community.
- **UN Gender Theme Group (UNGTG) meets the Government on Security Council Resolution on Women, Peace and Security (WPS):** On 22-23 February, the UNGTG in collaboration with the Ministry of Gender Children, Social Protection and the Women's NGO Secretariat of Liberia, organized a two-day Open Day meeting to track progress on UNSCR 1325 on WPS. The SRSG encouraged the 74 participants to use a rights based approach as rights holders to claim from duty bearer's effective delivery on WPS commitments. The recommendations will form a plan of action from which the various stakeholders, Government, the International community and women NGOs can draw guidance for WPS program implementation. The same occasion was used to launch the Human Development Report (HDR) 2016. The HDR ranks Liberia 174 out of 187 and records a Gender Inequality Index rank of 143 out of 147.
- **Anniversary of the Abidjan Declaration.** On 25 February 2017, Liberia commemorated the second anniversary of the Abidjan Declaration on the eradication of statelessness. The Declaration was adopted on 25 February 2015 by the Member States of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) on the occasion of a ministerial conference organized by UNHCR and ECOWAS. Several animated films on Statelessness were broadcasted on national TV on 24-25 February 2017, and a press release was shared in major dailies. Since the signing of the Declaration, UNHCR Liberia has worked closely with the Government of Liberia to prevent statelessness. Successful advocacy by UNHCR resulted in the ongoing review of the 1973 Alien and Nationality Law, for which UNHCR provided some financial support to the Liberia Immigration Service (LIS). UNHCR has also supported 2 Members of the Legislature, 2 government officials from the Liberia Immigration Services and the Ministry of Justice and 3 lecturers from the University of Liberia to attend external trainings on Statelessness.
- **Supplementary Feeding Programme (SFP):** In collaboration with AHA (African Humanitarian Action), SFP took place from 01 February to 05 February 2017 in PTP, Little Wlebo, and Bahn camp. Of the overall 14,352 refugees living in the three camps, 645 were targeted, which constitutes 4.5% of all refugees. A total of 590 refugees showed up for the distribution, which constitutes 91% of all targeted refugees. PTP had a 100% turnout rate. SFP is targeted for the chronically ill, malnourished children under 5-years, pregnant and lactating women. The Supplementary Feeding Programme will be carried out monthly until June 2017.



#### Contacts:

Ndeye Ndour, Representative, [ndour@unhcr.org](mailto:ndour@unhcr.org)  
 Ana Biurrun Ruiz, Associate External Relations & Reporting Officer,  
[biurrun@unhcr.org](mailto:biurrun@unhcr.org)

UNHCR is grateful for the generous contributions of the donors who have provided non-earmarked funding to UNHCR as well as the following donors who have directly contributed to the Liberia operation so far in 2016: Denmark | UN Program on HIV/AIDS

