

## Liberia - Bahn Refugee Camp & communities (Nimba) March 2018

1,757

Ivorian refugees in Nimba County

1,564

Ivorian refugees
In Bahn Camp

193

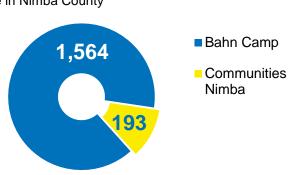
Ivorian refugees in Host Communities

4,030

Refugees repatriated since December 2015

#### **POPULATION OF CONCERN**

**1,757** people of concern live in Nimba County









#### **WORKING WITH PARTNERS**

- The Liberia Refugee Repatriation and Resettlement Commission (LRRRC): general security of the camp, camp management, and food distribution
- Special Emergency Activities to Restore Children Hope (SEARCH): Child Protection, Education and Community Mobilisation.
- African Initiative for Relief and Development (AIRD): Logistical support and maintenance of UNHCR and partner vehicles, Camp Shelter Management, and Voluntary Repatriation, support for Local Integration.
- Liberian National Police (LNP): Security for refugees at the camp under LRRRC supervision.



### Overview

- Bahn Refugee Camp was established to accommodate Ivoirians fleeing into Nimba County as a result of the presidential post-election conflict in Côte d'Ivoire in late 2010 and early 2011. In addition to Bahn Camp, which is situated in privately-owned land, the Government of Liberia allowed refugees to be hosted in 16 relocation communities.
- The camp is located some 16kms from Saclepea, at the entrance of Bahn City, and covers about 225 acres with a target capacity for up to 15,000 refugees. The population of the camp as of 28 February 2018 is 1,564 refugees.
- Field Office Saclepea (Nimba) closed on 31 December 2016. UNHCR Liberia Branch Office in Monrovia (Montserrado) oversees the activities in Bahn Camp (Nimba).
- In 2013, 1,131 refugees out of 1,207 were relocated voluntarily from Saclepea Camp to Bahn Camp (some through organised convoys and others relocated spontaneously). In the frame of local integration, UNHCR is working in Saclepea Refugee Settlement supporting those refugees who have decided to locally integrate in the county and its host communities.

## **Operational Priorities**

### **Local Integration**

Through a mixed solutions approach, UNHCR Liberia supports the local integration of Ivorian refugees in Nimba County who opt to remain in Liberia. The local integration of these refugees is done in phases: inclusion into national structures such as education and health; establishing livelihoods, transformation of camps into villages and settlements; and legalising the integration process.

#### **EDUCATION TRANSITION**

- Following the merger of the primary school from Bahn Community with the camp schools, both Liberian and Ivorian children are accessing primary education in the Bahn High Extension School.
- In line with the education transition from the Ivorian curriculum (taught in French) to the Liberian curriculum (taught in English), Bahn High Extension School is under the Education Management Information System (EMIS) and since February 2017, the school has moved from the Ivorian curriculum to Liberian curriculum.
- The school, supervised by the local Ministry of Education (MoE) Office in Nimba County, is also selected as a recipient of the World Food Programme (WFP) School Feeding Programme (SFP). As part of the activities in line with WFP School Feeding Programme (SFP) in this school, two gardens have been created to plant vegetables.
- 14 Liberian teachers work in this school. Some teaching staff are being paid by UNHCR until they
  can be incorporated into the government payroll.
- UNHCR has provided motorbikes to the Liberian school principal.
- UNHCR has handed over the renovated teachers' quarters to the County Education Office.





(L) Bahn High Extension School students show their grade cards. (R) Bahn High Extension School fully renovated

#### HEALTH TRANSITION AND WASH

- Ministry of Health accepted the Refugee Health Structures. Since March 2017 all health services
  for refugees in Bahn camp are integrated into Bahn Health Center (national structure) and the clinic
  facilities in Bahn camp closed.
- The catchment population of Bahn Health Center is more than 33,700 (32,000 host communities and 1,700 refugees).
- UNHCR has donated ambulances to County Health Teams to be used in the whole county.
- With the support of the Ministry of Health, UNHCR has trained and recruited staff members.
- Some of the facilities included in the renovation and construction works by UNHCR and partners
  are the living quarters for nurses and teachers in the three camps and a registration center at Bahn
  Health Center.
- UNHCR has also constructed the male and female ward, emergency ward and the pediatric wing, the triage area; pharmacy and records room; VIP toilets and the incinerator.



Bahn Health Center fully renovated, including the new Registration Building. ©UNHCR



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#### **LINKS**

Operational Portal - Facebook