

Côte d'Ivoire Situation

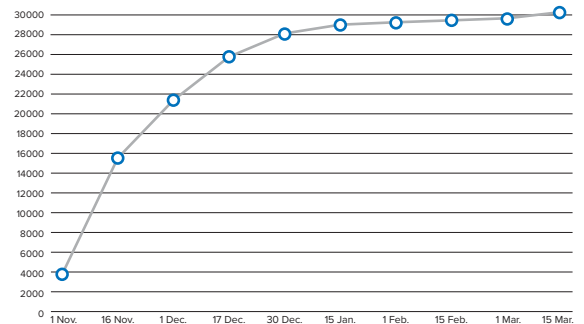
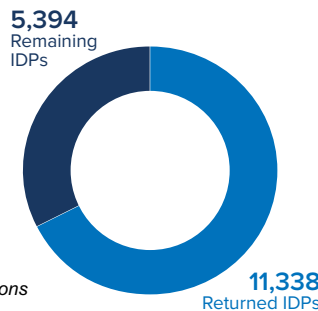
19 March 2021

As of 15 March, **30,134 Ivorians who fled Côte d'Ivoire** have been pre-registered in Liberia, Ghana, Guinea and Togo. Liberia currently hosts 95 per cent of them.

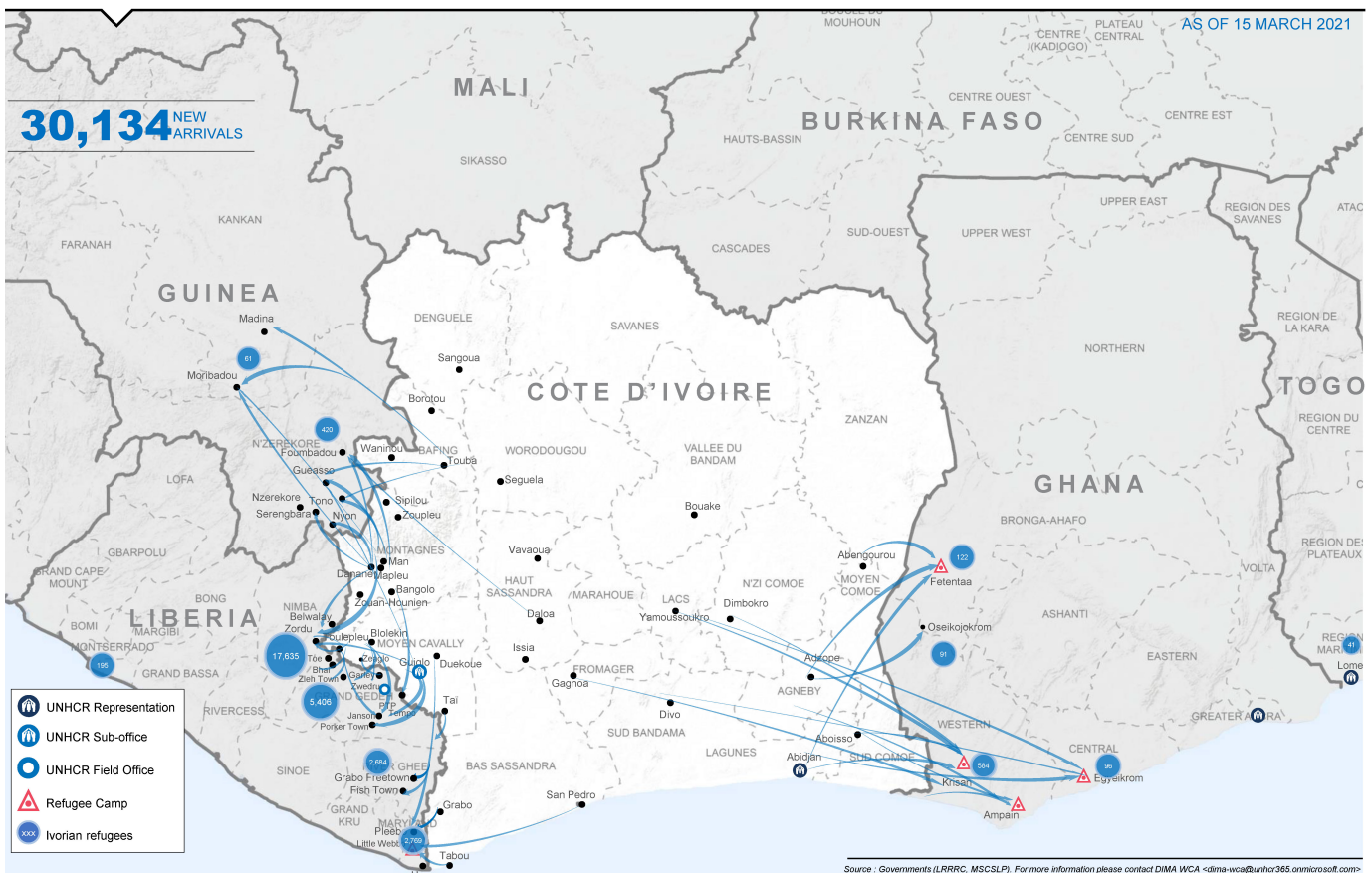
In Liberia, UNHCR and partners **donated four motorcycles** to government agencies, **repaired a county ambulance**, and **are rehabilitating roads** to improve access to services for Ivorians and hosts in remote areas.

POPULATION OF CONCERN*

Host Countries	Refugees
Liberia	28,689
Ghana	893
Guinea	511
Togo	41
Total	30,134



*Data as of 15 March as reported by UNHCR Operations



KEY UNHCR ASSISTANCE TO DATE:



UNHCR Emergency Response

Liberia



PROTECTION

- As of 15 March 2021, a total of 28,689 Ivorian refugees have crossed into Liberia, 93 per cent of whom (25,814) have been formally registered. Out of the five counties hosting recent Ivorian arrivals, Nimba County continues to host a majority (63 per cent) of the population.
- UNHCR donated four motorcycles to LRRRC and the Liberian Immigration Service to build capacity to provide services to hard to reach areas in Grand Gedeh County. UNHCR and partners continue to respond to reports of sporadic new arrivals in remote areas, but registration efforts for Ivorians who arrived in 2020 are drawing to a close.
- As of 15 March, there were 1,781 Ivorians arrivals with specific needs (PWSNs) in Liberia, including 561 single parent headed households, 386 elderly persons at risk, 208 persons with disabilities and 176 unaccompanied children.



HEALTH

- Malaria is reported to be the most prevalent health issue among refugee communities as a significant increase in the number of cases has been reported in border areas. Little Wlebo health clinic has reported treating 40 cases per day. Mosquito nets have been procured but the delivery has been delayed by logistical constraints.
- UNHCR partner AIRD repaired the Grand Gedeh County ambulance to improve access to healthcare for refugees and their hosts. Lack of access to adequate health facilities remains a challenge throughout the border counties, and in some areas the nearest medical services are three hours by foot.
- COVID-19 prevention efforts are ongoing, and temperature checks, handwashing stations and mask distribution have been implemented at registration sites.



SHELTER AND WaSH

- Shortage of clean drinking water continues to be a key challenge for Ivorian arrivals. UNHCR completed repair of two water pumps at Little Wlebo reception centre and continues to work on expanding WaSH infrastructure in host areas.



FOOD AND CRIs

- Food scarcity remains an ongoing concern throughout the border areas, and UNHCR is coordinating closely with WFP a distribution plan to ensure that the most vulnerable receive 60 days of food assistance.
- On 21 and 22 February, UNHCR distributed 5,620 pieces of soap and almost 1,000 hand sanitizers and sanitary napkins for 1,405 individuals (456 households) in Little Wlebo settlement.
- During the reporting period UNHCR and LRRRC distributed core relief items (CRIs) to benefit more than 2,100 Ivorians in Maryland and River Ghee Counties, including 1,450 sleeping mats, 900 blankets, 1,070 buckets, more than 800 jerry cans, 6,100 pieces of laundry soap, more than 2,300 pairs of women's underwear, and 1,100 sanitary napkins.
- On 2 March, UNHCR partner Christian Aid Ministries distributed CRIs in Grand Gedeh County to benefit almost 300 Ivorians and more than 180 members of the Liberian host community. Some of the items provided included 100 bags of beans (50 lbs.), 100 bags of rice (25 kg.), 480 litres of cooking oil, 150 cooking pots, 1,920 pieces of soap, 200 hygiene kits, 72 buckets, and almost 400 pairs of children's sandals.

Ghana



PROTECTION

- As of 16 March, there are 893 new Ivorian arrivals (410 families) in Ghana. Registration is an ongoing joint effort between the Ghana Refugee Board and UNHCR, and 71 per cent of the population have been registered and given asylum-seeker certificates. UNHCR is also renewing all expired asylum-seeker certificates.



HEALTH

- To prevent the spread of COVID-19, new arrivals to Ampain Camp continue to be transferred to the Sowodadzim Reception and Quarantine Center, where 3 individuals are currently completing their mandatory 14-day quarantine. In Fetentaa Camp, one new arrival is undergoing mandatory quarantine in a designated area of the camp.
- UNHCR continues to distribute face masks and hand sanitizers to prevent the spread of COVID-19, while UNHCR partner ADRA provides hot meals for new arrivals undergoing mandatory quarantine.

Guinea

- As of 15 March, the number of Ivorian arrivals in Guinea remains at 511 individuals (150 households). Registration and border monitoring are ongoing. Most new arrivals cross into Guinea through unofficial points where they aren't subject to COVID-19 precautions.
- From 25 January to 4 February, UNHCR and CNISR carried out a joint mission to register and provide documentation to 213 Ivorians in Bossou, Lola Centre, Nyon, Guéasso, Tonon, Thuo and Nzérékoré.
- Most new arrivals live with host communities who support them with shelter, food and other resources. Many Ivorian children in Guinea have started attending local schools and many families have started agricultural activities in their host communities.

Togo

- As of 15 March, there are 41 Ivorian refugees in Togo registered by the National Commission for Assistance to Refugees (CNAR). Most are being hosted in private homes in local communities, and the distribution of COVID-19 protection kits is underway.

Côte d'Ivoire

- Reports by the Government of Côte d'Ivoire indicate that of an initial population of 16,732 internally displaced persons, 68 per cent (11,338) have returned to their original villages, leaving a population of 5,394 internally displaced Ivorians.
- UNHCR is providing IDPs with shelter, blankets, clothing, soap, and other necessities distributed through CARITAS. UNHCR leads the protection working group with IRC and the shelter/CRI sector with CARITAS.