

Côte d'Ivoire

January 2020

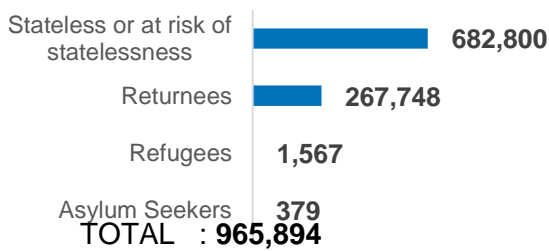
Official mission to the northern region of Cote d'Ivoire

National Action Plan for the Eradication of Statelessness (PANEA-CI) ENACTED

UNHCR assisted with the voluntary repatriation of **149 Ivorian refugees in January 2020**

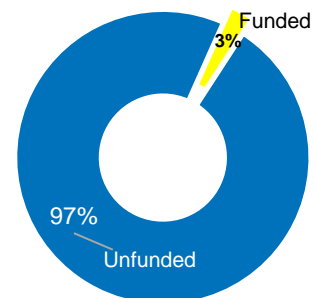
POPULATION OF CONCERN :

Côte d'Ivoire



COTE D'IVOIRE AS OF JANUARY 17, 2019

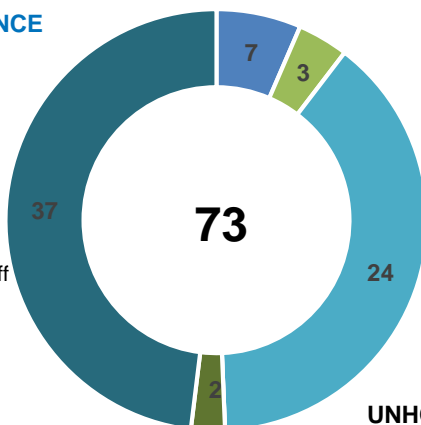
\$16.6 MILLION UNHCR FINANCIAL REQUIREMENTS 2019*



UNHCR PRESENCE

Staff:

- 37 National Staff
- 24 National UNV
- 7 International Staff
- 03 IUNV
- 02 Interns
- 00 Consultant



UNHCR office:

- 1 Branch Office in **Abidjan**
- 1 Sub Office in **Guiglo**

OUR PARTNERS

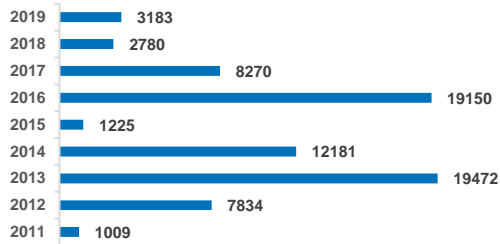
UNHCR Côte d'Ivoire works in close partnership with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Ministry of Justice and Human Rights, *Caritas-CI*, *World Food Program (WFP)*, the *United Nations Volunteers Programme (UNV)* and *Association des Femmes Juristes de Côte d'Ivoire (AFJCI)*.

*The financial requirem




Map Sources: UNCS and UNHCR
The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations. Creation date: 17.10.2018.

Assisted Voluntary Returns from 2011 to January 31st, 2020



75,254 returnees assisted by the UNHCR from 2011 to January 2020

149

149 returnees assisted by the UNHCR in January 2020 

jan20 Feb20 Mar20 Apr20 May20 jun20 Jul20 Aug20 Sep20 Oct20 Nov20 Dec20

Voluntary Repatriation of Ivorian Refugees

■ VolRep –Recap January 2020

Date	CoA	Total Assisted	Returns	Household	NoC*
Tuesday, January 28, 2020	Liberia	157	149	42	8
TOTAL FOR JANUARY ,2020		157	149	42	8

* **NoC** (Not of Concern) refers to returnees relatives accompanying their Ivorian families



vaccination of Ivorian returnees during repatriation /gbenta (Danané) @UNHCR

WORKING WITH PARTNERS

- The Regional Director of the **Ministry of Family, Women and Child Protection** met UNHCR Head of the Sub-Delegation office and other United Nations agencies representatives based in the UNHCR Office in Guiglo, for New Year's greetings. During the meeting the United Nations reiterated its **commitment to work** firmly with the government's decentralised structures in Guiglo. Above all, they expressed their eagerness to see activities of the **GBV platform** regain the upper hand in the region.

OPERATIONAL HIGHLIGHTS

- BO Abidjan with the support of its key partners have contributed and made possible the **enactment of the National Action Plan for the Eradication of Statelessness (PANEA-CI)** by the Gouvernement of Côte d'Ivoire at the minister's council on 08 January 2020. Côte d'Ivoire therefore becomes the ninth of the fifteen ECOWAS states to adopt a National Action Plan against statelessness, following the Declaration of Abidjan of 2015.
The enactment of the NAP against statelessness in principle should not entail any consequences for the country insofar as the initiatives proposed by the Gouvernement of Côte d'Ivoire during the 2019 Executive Committee have varied deadlines and can be implemented in a staggered manner over a period of 5 years. The enactment of the NAP would also enable to **launch funding procedures** for numerous activities and legislative reforms, in particular through the appeal for funds that UNHCR is preparing to launch with regards to tackling statelessness in 12 States including Côte d'Ivoire (Dominican Republic, Iraq, Kenya, Lebanon, Myanmar, Niger, Philippines, Syria, Thailand, Ukraine and Viet-Nam).
We must, however, already consider that with the election year and the country's controversial background on nationality, the implementation of the National Action Plan against statelessness will constitute a major challenge in 2020. Still wrongly associated with the issuance of Ivorian citizenship, despite UNHCR's efforts in terms of public awareness campaigns, statelessness remains a sensitive issue. Given that the crises experienced by the country over the last two decades were mainly related to nationality and the question of "Ivoirité" issues, the current political situation and upcoming elections cannot be considered conducive to the smooth implementation of the NAP as it has already been foreseen by UNHCR Côte d'Ivoire.
- In the course of the United Nations Heads of Agencies retreat in the northern part of Côte d'Ivoire, UNHCR Resident Representative took the opportunity to inquire about the working conditions of UNHCR Field Protection Assistants (FPA) in the region. He seized the opportunity while paying a courtesy visit to the prefect of **Tengrela** and **Kouto** to introduce Boundiali UNHCR Field Protection Assistants to the administrative and judicial authorities. The visit was also marked by the handing over ceremony of nationality certificates to six(6) persons at risk of statelessness in

Boundiali in presence of the General Secretary of Boundiali court, the Mayor of Boundiali and UNHCR's partner AFJCI organizer of the ceremony.

UNHCR FPA and partners have pointed out few **challenges** linked to birth registration and the cost of suppletive jugements. To face the different challenges, **sensitization** with specific themes on the importance of birth registration were doubled and discussions towards the **reduction** of the suppletive judgement cost were initiated.

- A meeting chaired by the Regional Prefect, Prefect of the Department of Guiglo to sensitize traditional chiefs and community leaders of the Cavally region on **peaceful elections in 2020** was held. The exchanges focused on the role of the latter in the process for the peace and cohesion maintenance in the region. The assembly was also informed of the arrival in Guiglo of a delegation of the Grand Mediator of the Republic of Côte d'Ivoire, for the official installation of his delegate in the Cavally region (*the institution "the Mediator of the Republic of Côte d'Ivoire " is the presidential mediation body (OPREM) instituted by decree N0 95-816 of 29 September 1995, whose main role is to help reinforce social cohesion*).



One of the 6 persons at risk of statelessness in Boundiali having received their nationality certificate by UNHCR Resident Representative Photo @FaouziaHaidara/UNHCR

MAIN ACTIVITIES

■ PROTECTION Refugees

➤ Medical assistance

- 17 people were provided with medical assistance, 5 of whom at full charge in Guiglo(3) and Tabou(2) and two(2) assisted with transportation to and from their various medical appointments.

➤ Education

- DAARA initiated discussions with the University of Cocody to facilitate the accommodation of a refugee student.

➤ Food Assistance

- 04 refugees were provided with food assistance.

➤ Multisectoral assistance

- DAARA conducted 16 home visits to refugees residing in San-Pedro(6) and Tabou(10) to inquire about their living conditions.

- DAARA Guiglo followed up on a protection case of a refugee who was summoned by a judicial commissioner for 7 months of unpaid rent.

➤ Local integration

- DAARA continues to follow up with the authorities for the issuance of biometric travel documents to refugees.

- Within the framework of the economic inclusion of refugees, UNHCR and DAARA will call for individual or collective IGR projects for a financing up to 20 million for the year 2020.

- UNHCR and DAARA will affiliate refugee population to universal health coverage, which will facilitate access to public health at a reasonable cost.

➤ Protection/ SGBV

- UNHCR and DAARA received 47 refugees. Exchanges revolved around voluntary repatriation and social issues (housing, health, etc.) Refugee concerns were taken into account and guidance was provided.

- Guiglo GBV platform held its first meeting of the year 2020 on Thursday, January 30, 2020 at UNHCR Sub-delegation office. The meeting was chaired by the regional director of the Ministry of Family, Women and Children and was attended by all the actors involved in the fight against GBV in the Cavally region namely the civil protection, child protection and the fight against sexual and gender-based violence platforms.

Statelessness

➤ Prevention

- 02 suppletive judgment of birth certificate were given to persons at risk of statelessness. One in the presence of the UNHCR Representative on Monday 20

January 2020, at the Sub-Prefecture of Boundiali and to the second to an abandoned child in the Dabadagnogo district of Soubré.

- 10 court cases ordering the issuance of substitute birth certificates for children at risk of statelessness were withdrawn from the Boundiali court and 03 applications for the issuance of suppletive judgements of birth certificates were submitted to the court of Soubré for a foundling of unknown parents and two abandoned children.
- The project Right to a Nationality for All (DNT) was presented to the traditional authorities and the sub-prefect of Ganaoni located in the department of Boundiali, during his settlement ceremony.
- The focal point of AFJCI's DNT project participated on 17 and 20 January 2020, in exchange meetings with the wê community of the Yao-Sehi district (Yopougou) and members of the NGO AFENADY on the importance of birth registration.
- 09 persons (07 adults and 02 children) at risk of statelessness were identified in Agboville with a view to establishing their suppletive judgements of birth certificates.
- 05 legal consultations were organised at the Legal Information Centre of Boundiali to orient 05 people (04 men and 01 women) on birth registration and identity documents.
- **125** people were sensitized on human rights, including 45 in Gagnoa. (UNHCR, AFJCI).

➤ **Identification**

- 02 children aged 09 to 11 years at risk of statelessness were identified in Kouamekro in the Soubré sub-prefecture. These children were never declared at the civil registry office and their parents, who had no identity documents also passed away.
- 16 persons at risk of statelessness were identified in Agboville(08) ,Boundiali (07) and Gagnoa(1). 25 foundlings of unknown parents were identified by AFJCI during work sessions at the Dabou nursery and the Marie-Thérèse d'Adjamé Institute.
- 01 child born to a Liberian mother and an unknown father has been identified and declared at the civil registry office. His parentage has been established with respect to his only mother who, under Liberian law, cannot transmit her nationality to him.

➤ **Reduction**

- 06 Ivorian nationality certificates were handed over to persons at risk of statelessness in the sub-prefecture of Boundiali on Monday 20 January 2020, in the presence of the UNHCR Resident Representative.
- 01 application for a Malian consular card was submitted on 27 January 2020, to the leader of the Malian community of Boundiali.
- 08 nationality certificates issued to persons at risk of statelessness were withdrawn from the court of Tabou. The documents will be delivered to these persons forthwith.



Durable Solutions

➤ Voluntary repatriation

- Steps are being taken by UNHCR for the voluntary repatriation of 03 families of 03 people to CAR and DRC.
- DAARA has established a safe-conduct to facilitate the voluntary repatriation of a Central African refugee.

➤ Resettlement

- UNHCR participated through Visio conference in the Francophone session on complementary channels. It took the opportunity to exchange on its forecasts and challenges in terms of resettlement.

➤ Reintegration

- Upon the conclusion of the second session of the education platform, DAARA communicated the registration numbers of 04 repatriated secondary school students to their parents in view of their reintegration into the Ivorian education system.
- DAARA assisted two repatriated pupils having difficulties in enrolling in primary school in Danané.

1. Monitoring of 2019 groupings and associations

- The ABEWE grouping in Toulepleu (Klobly) is still active. The fish are fed according to the prescribed ration (2kg/day/pond).
- The WA KOUNOUGBE group of Tabou made a first sale of 533 chickens which brought in **1.332.500 FCFA**. It has restarted its activities with an amount of 1.032.500 FCFA and decided to save 300.000 FCFA. A first order of 250 chicks was delivered on Thursday, January 30, 2020.
- The HOPE Association of Bolequin (Zeaglo) is still active (braids) with savings amounting 40.000 FCFA.
- The Association GLOUDY of Zouan-hounien (Goulaleu) is still active with savings amounting **80.000 FCFA**.
- The Association restitution of Tabou yokobo is still active with savings amounting **34,000 FCFA**.

2. Monitoring of the best trainees of the Tabou Professional Training Center



Partner Caritas Visiting a hair salon opened in Sékréké by the Tabou Professional Training Center trainee @CARITAS

- One of Tabou Professional Training Center opened a hairdressing salon on the eve of the Christmas holidays and is now installed in her village in Sékréké.

Communication

- As part of the communication and coordination of activities aimed at addressing statelessness, the Protection Assistants of Doropo, Agboville and Boundiali paid courtesy visits to the prefectural bodies and the authorities in charge of security in their respective areas of deployment. The authorities met expressed their interest in continuing the collaboration with UNHCR.

EXTERNAL / DONOR RELATIONS

UNHCR is grateful for the generous contributions of donors to the Côte d'Ivoire operation

[Denmark](#) | [Private donors in Japan](#) | [Peacebuilding Fund](#)

Special thanks to the major donors of unrestricted and regional funds

[United States of America](#) | [Sweden](#) | [United Kingdom](#) | [Italy](#) | [Netherlands](#) | [Norway](#) | [Private donors in Spain](#) | [Australia](#) | [Japan](#) | [Switzerland](#) | [France](#) | [Canada](#) | [Private donors in Italy](#)

CONTACTS

Faouzia HAIDARA, Reporting and External Relations Specialist

haidara@unhcr.org

Clément Rodrigue KAMDEM, Information Management Officer

kamdem@unhcr.org