

GHANA

EGYEIKROM REFUGEE CAMP BRIEFING NOTES

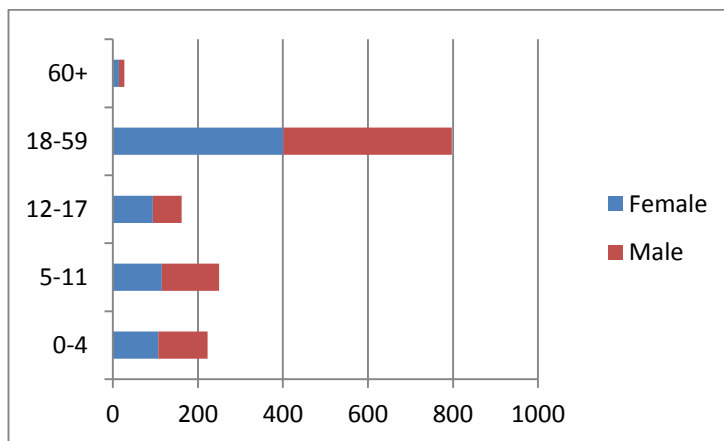
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CAMP OVERVIEW

The Egyeikrom refugee camp hosts mainly Ivorian asylum-seekers and refugees who fled violence in Côte d’Ivoire after the 2010 presidential elections. The camp also recorded 450 new arrivals as a result of the recent election conducted on 25th October 2015 in Côte d’Ivoire. The Egyeikrom camp which is in the Komenda-Edina-Eguafo-Abirem (KEEA) Municipality (Central Region) was established on 20th July 2011. The current population of the camp is 1,459 persons of concern (PoC). The Government of Ghana provides assistance in the provision of camp management through NADMO and the general oversight of operations through the Ghana Refugee Board. UNHCR continues to receive favourable collaborations from Ghana Refugee Board, Ghana Immigration Service, Ghana Education Service, Police, the District and the Municipal Assemblies, as well as the Ghana Health Service.

Fig 1: Egyeikrom Camp Population | By Gender and Age group



Quick facts

- Date established: **July 2011**
- Location: **Komenda-Edina-Eguafo-Abirim (KEEA), Central Region**
- Camp population: **1,459**
- Country of Origin: **Côte d’Ivoire**
- Size of camp area: **50 acres**
- Number of partners working in camp: **4**

WORKING WITH PARTNERS

Partnership is central to UNHCR's work, in particular in the search for durable solutions and provision of equal access to basic services and fostering sustainable livelihoods. At the camp level, UNHCR works closely with the Ghana Refugee Board (GRB) and Implementing Partners who are responsible for implementing UNHCR's protection and mixed solutions programming. The National Catholic Secretariat (NCS) is responsible for Health, Nutrition, Food and Non-food items, as well as shelter. The Christian Council of Ghana (CCG) is responsible for Basic Education for refugees, and the Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA) is responsible for implementing livelihood programmes which include skills training, apprenticeship programmes, small business support, English proficiency classes and agriculture and GRB responsible for Water and Sanitation, lighting and birth registration issuance of documentation. UNHCR cooperates with state agencies such as Ghana Immigration Services, Ghana Health Services, Ghana Education Service, Department of Social Development, Domestic Violence and Victim Support Unit (DOVVSU) and other relevant government agencies and departments in ensuring asylum-seekers and refugees have effective access to basic and protection services. UNHCR also receives operational from UNFPA, IOM and UNAIDS.

KEY ACTIVITIES



Protection

- Provision of protection counseling services to PoCs.
- Facilitation of Voluntary repatriation of PoCs upon request (within the context of the Tripartite Agreement).
- Identification and submission of potential cases for resettlement consideration.
- Follow up of individual cases which require support to ensure timely assistance is offered.



Camp Coordination

- Conduct quarterly coordination meeting attended by Implementing Partners and Operational Partners at the UNHCR Field Office in Takoradi.
- Conduct bimonthly Camp Management meeting chaired by Camp Manager at the refugee camp.

SUCCESS/ACHIEVEMENTS

- Three refugee groups have benefited from funds totaling \$25,000.00 from the Julia Taft Foundation to implement poultry farming, agriculture as well as cassava processing plant.
 - Staff quarters constructed for GES posted teachers posted to the camp schools, as well as for Police posted to the community to enhance security.
- The Ghana operations has received a total of \$90,000.00 to Implement the production of an environmentally friendly and safe alternative fuel source aimed at reducing the risk of Sexual and Gender Based Violence (SGBV) associated with fuel wood collection.
- As part of the process of integrating refugee healthcare into Ghana Health Service, UNHCR has enrolled refugees onto the NHIS to increase access to state health facilities.
 - Health facility expanded to include nurses' quarters and psychosocial counselling office.
 - Successful reconstruction of drainage in Egyeikrom Village has restored cordial relations between host community and refugee population.

CHALLENGES

- Current police post in camp is in disrepair and requires renovation to meet acceptable standards.
- Difficulty in solid waste management in the camps due to high costs of service.
- No age appropriate activities for children and young teens due to discontinuation of child friendly space programme following the withdrawal of Life Relief Foundation (A local NGO engaged by UNICEF). Volunteers trained by UNICEF/LRF have abandoned the programme due to lack of funding to pay allowances.
- Low quality of shelter in the camp, with over 27% of PoCs still in emergency plastic sheet tents since 2011.
- Difficulty in securing more scholarships for refugee youth for secondary as well as tertiary education.
- Lack of school feeding programme for the camp primary school.
- Challenge to livelihood opportunities due to limited funds for refugee business initiatives, and unavailability of farming land near the refugee camp

CAMP PHOTOS:



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