

HIGHLIGHTS

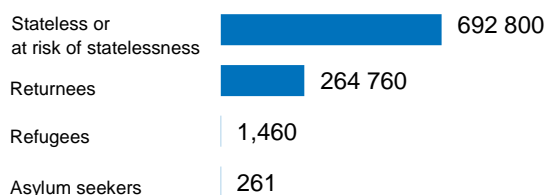
1,520

returns of Ivorian
refugees facilitated in
June 2017

A **Come & Tell mission**
informed Ivorian refugees in Liberia
about voluntary returns

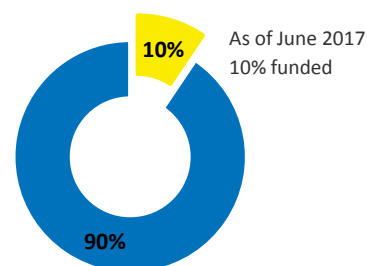
Celebration of **World
Refugee Day** in
support of displaced
people

Population of Concern : **959,281**
Côte d'Ivoire

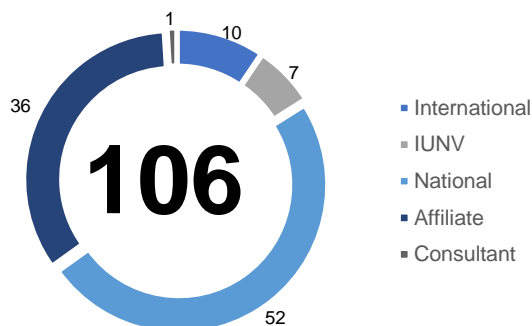


Funding in 2017:
USD 20,242,971 M

requested for the Côte d'Ivoire situation



UNHCR Presence: Staffing



Three **offices**: Abidjan (Branch Office), Guiglo (Sub-Office) and Tabou (Field Office)



WORKING WITH PARTNERS

UNHCR Côte d'Ivoire works in close partnership with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Justice and Human Rights, the *Association de Soutien à l'Auto-promotion Sanitaire Urbaine (ASAPSU)*, *Caritas, Développement Rural et Agricole à l'Ouest (DRAO)*, the *World Food Program (WFP)*, the *UN Office for Project Services (UNOPS)* and the *Association des Femmes Juristes de Côte d'Ivoire (AFJCI)*.

UNHCR is grateful for the generous contributions of donors to the Côte d'Ivoire operation: [Denmark](#) | [Japan](#) | [UN Peacebuilding Fund](#) | [The United States of America](#) | [Private Donors in Germany](#)

MAIN ACTIVITIES

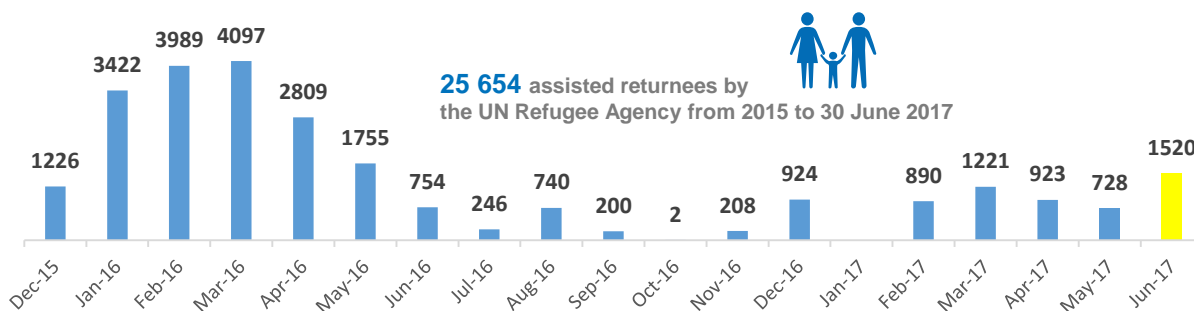
VOLUNTARY REPATRIATION OF IVORIAN REFUGEES

Since 2015, a total of 25,654 Ivorian refugees have returned with support from UNHCR and its partners, 24,930 of whom from Liberia and 724 from other countries such as Togo, Mali and Senegal. In June 2017 alone, UNHCR facilitated **1,520 voluntary returns**.

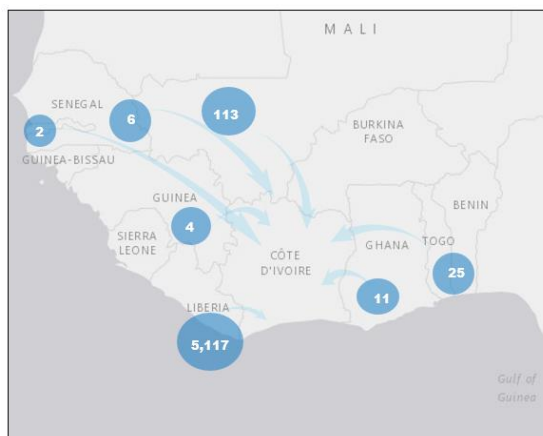
UNHCR Cote d'Ivoire organized a **"Come and Tell mission"** to Liberia from 26 - 30 June 2017 with the support of SAARA (*Service d'Aide et Assistance aux Réfugiés*) and UNHCR Liberia. The Ivorian delegation was composed of representatives of UNHCR as well as of the Ministries of Foreign Affairs; of the Interior; for the Promotion of Youth, Youth Employment and Civic Service; of National Education, Technical Education and Training; of Defense; of Women, Child Protection and Solidarity, as well as the NGOs CARITAS, ASAPSU and DRAO. The aim of the mission was to inform Ivorian refugees in Liberia about the security situation in their areas of return and the assistance provided to returnees to enable them to take informed decisions on their repatriation to Cote d'Ivoire. Although UNHCR continues to facilitate the voluntary repatriation of Ivorian refugees, close to 14,000 remain in different camps and communities in Liberia.

In June 2017, **severe weather conditions** and rains affected the voluntary repatriation to Cote d'Ivoire, especially in the south-west of the country. The bridge linking Tabou and San Pedro collapsed on 13 June 2017. A diversion lane has been operational since 20 June. A convoy scheduled for 14 June was postponed due to the degradation of the Prolo-Tabou track.

Monthly breakdown of facilitated returns since December 2015



Breakdown of facilitated returns in 2017 by country of provenance



REFUGEES

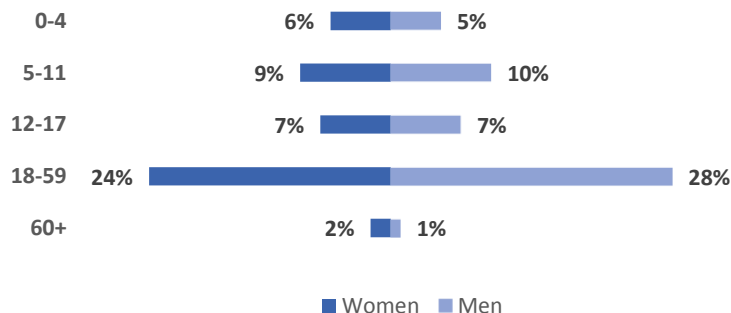
UNHCR Cote d'Ivoire invited refugees, students, ambassadors, government officials, UN agencies, the African Development Bank and civil society representatives to celebrate **World Refugee Day** on 20 June 2017 at the Felix Houphouët Boigny University in Abidjan. Held every year, it's the day the world commemorates the strength, courage, and perseverance of millions of refugees. It marks a key moment for the public to show support for families forced to flee.

The ceremony in Cote d'Ivoire took place under the auspices of the Ivorian Minister for Women, Child Welfare and Solidarity in Cote D'Ivoire, Ms. Mariatou Koné. The opening speech of UNHCR's representative in Cote d'Ivoire was followed by interventions of the Deputy of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs as well as art performances by local musicians and entertainers.



In collaboration with the French Embassy in Cote D'Ivoire, UNHCR also organized a film screening on "Migration flows" at the French Institute of Abidjan, followed by a panel discussion. The Minister of African Integration and Ivorians abroad, Mr. Ally Coulibaly, attended the screening as well as a number of embassies, UN agencies, religious leaders and students.

Breakdown of refugees in Côte d'Ivoire by age and sex



UNHCR, together with its partners SAARA and ASAPSU, continues to facilitate the administrative processes for refugees and asylum seekers through a **one-stop shop in Abidjan**, launched in January 2017. The shop is open on Tuesdays and Thursdays, during which time refugees can seek support regarding questions related to education, health and Income Generating Activities (IGAs) as well as issues related to protection and security concerns.

RESETTLEMENT

As part of the resettlement process in Tabou, 28 cases of 86 refugees have been submitted for resettlement and are currently awaiting the decision of the resettlement countries. The identification of new cases for possible resettlement is ongoing.

GENDER BASED-VIOLENCE

UNHCR's implementing partner Caritas organized two **awareness-raising campaigns** on the causes and consequences of Gender-Based Violence (GBV) in June 2017. The campaigns reached over 700 persons through participatory theater performances in Meantouo and Bin-Houyé.

UNHCR trained 29 community leaders trained in the prevention and response to sexual and gender-based violence in Bloléquin from 15 to 16 June 2017.

STATELESSNESS

UNHCR organized on 8 June 2017 a ceremony for the official presentation of the report "[Statelessness and nationality in Côte d'Ivoire](#)". Researched and written for UNHCR by Ms. Mirna Adjami, an expert on statelessness and nationality, the study traces the evolution of laws and practices concerning nationality, civil status and identification systems and highlights administrative and legal causes of statelessness in Côte d'Ivoire.

The Ivorian government estimates that almost 700,000 people in Côte d'Ivoire are currently stateless or at risk of statelessness. This means that they are unable to prove their nationality and are therefore unable to access basic rights and services, such as the rights to healthcare, education, property, a legal identity, and freedom of movement.

Under the auspices of the Ministry of Justice and Human Rights, the report was presented to the Ivorian authorities, the diplomatic community as well as to UN agencies and CSOs.

