

Ghana

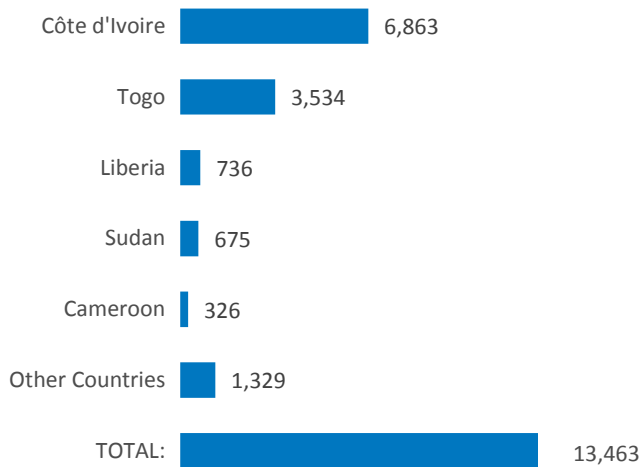
Nov/Dec 2019

862 Persons of concern assisted to return home on voluntary repatriation in 2019

UNHCR and Partner for Livelihoods, ADRA Ghana, win **Municipal Best Institution in Agriculture** for agricultural activities in Egyeikrom Camp.

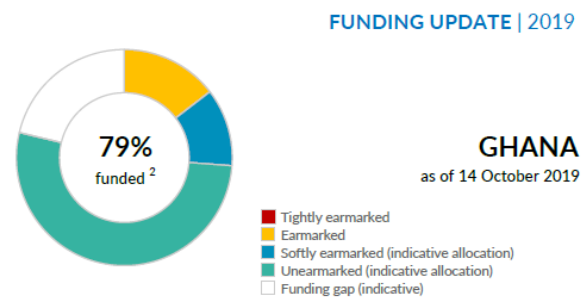
German Ambassador to Ghana interacts with some beneficiaries of the German Scholarship program for Refugees known as DAFI

POPULATION OF CONCERN (AS AT DECEMBER 2019)



FUNDING (AS AT DECEMBER 2019)

UNHCR's financial requirements for 2019 is **\$7.1 million**



USA – Earmarked Contribution – USD 1,200,000

UNHCR PRESENCE

Staff:

- 30 National Staff
- 02 International Staff
- 08 UNOPS

Offices:

- 01 Country Office in Accra
- 01 Field Office in Takoradi



Five refugee children who were child parliamentarians at the first official children's parliament



German Amb, Christof Retzlaff and UNHCR Country Rep, Esther Kiragu interacting with some DAFI beneficiaries

Working with Partners

- **Government Partners:** The Ministry of the Interior, the Ghana Refugee Board (GRB), and other relevant government departments and ministries such as Ghana Education Service, Ghana Health Service, Ghana Immigration Service, Commission for Human Rights and Administrative Justice, and Ghana Police Service to mention a few.
- **Partners:** Christian Council of Ghana (CCG), National Catholic Secretariat (NCS) and the Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA).
- **UN Agencies:** UNFPA, IOM, UNAIDS and UNICEF.
- **Private Sector Partnerships:** UNHCR Ghana is exploring expanded partnership opportunities with the Private Sector and other development partners.

Main Activities

Protection

- In line with its theme for this year- 'Youth Standing Up for Human Rights', International Human Rights Day was observed by the UN Ghana Country Team with an interaction session with youth activists including a young refugee. The youth used the opportunity to discuss with the Resident Coordinator and Heads of Agencies present, pertinent human rights issues affecting young people and how the UN can support.

Livelihoods

- UNHCR Ghana together with Partner for Livelihoods, ADRA Ghana have been adjudged the Municipal Best Institution in Agric Production for its operations in Egyeikrom Refugee Camp. This was at the recent Farmers' and Fishermen's Day Celebration for the Komenda Edina Eguafo Abrem (KEEA) Municipal Assembly in the Central Region. A Certificate of Merit together with items including a fridge and knapsack spraying machine were received
- A sensitization meeting was held with refugee women in Krisan Camp aimed at enhancing their financial inclusion and to encourage women in the camp to improve upon saving for livelihoods purposes. The concept of savings associations/groups and how it operates was explained to them to explore their level of interest.
- A stakeholder planning meeting on livelihood and economic inclusion activities for 2020 was held in Ampain Camp involving all key stakeholders. The team reviewed performance for 2019 in terms of successes, challenges, lessons learnt and way forward for 2020 activity implementation. Suggestions were also given in terms of broadening activities in the area of poultry, driving license acquisition, skills training/apprenticeship, crop farming and cash grants for small businesses.

Solutions

- Between January to December 2019, 862 Persons of Concern from three countries were assisted to return to their country of origin. This included 824 Ivorians, 33 Togolese and 5 Central Africans.
- Both UNHCR and GRB reached an agreement to support the renewal of passports for all locally integrated Liberians living in Ghana who were issued Liberian Passports with residence permits for Ghana in 2012 and are now expired. The exercise is intended to support the continuous local integration of the Liberians in Ghana. An estimated 3,500 locally integrated Liberians have been earmarked to benefit from this exercise. Meanwhile the Ghana Immigration Service has also agreed to issue 5 years residence permits at a reduced cost.

Education

- Five refugee children from Ampain, Krisan and Egyeikrom Camps were part of the first official National Children's Parliament in Ghana which was inaugurated as part of activities marking International Children's Day on 20th

November, 2019. The day also coincided with the 30th anniversary of the Adoption of the Convention on the Rights of the Child. The event organized by the Ministry of Gender, Children and Social Protection in collaboration with UNICEF and other Partners saw 80 Child Parliamentarians from all 16 regions of the country who used the opportunity to raise critical issues concerning children in Ghana

- German Ambassador to Ghana, Christoph Retzlaff interacted with some beneficiaries of the German Scholarship Programme for Refugees known as DAFI (Albert Einstein German Academic Refugee Initiative). Beneficiaries took the opportunity to share stories of their refugee journey, the impact of the scholarship and their ambitions for the future. DAFI has played an integral role over the years in enabling refugees worldwide to access higher education.
- At a recent world meeting of refugees hosted by UNHCR and the Government of Switzerland in Geneva, a young Sierra Leonean refugee from Ghana, Felix Sessay made a case for refugee education when he presented during a session on Education for refugees. He indicated that refugees have a shared responsibility in finding solutions to the world's major problems like climate change, conflict, war, etc. But they can only do so when they are educated. The two-day Global Refugee Forum was the first gathering at the Ministerial level to follow up on the practical implementation of the Global Compact on Refugees. A delegation from the Ghana Refugee Board also participated in the conference.

Shelter

- The British High Commission in Ghana has donated some funds through the Ghana Refugee Board for the renovation of about 10 shelters at Krisan camp which are dilapidated. The renovation of the houses is expected to create more room for persons of concern, especially those recently relocated from Accra and other new arrivals.

Community Services

- The International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women marked with the annual campaign- 16 Days of Activism against Gender-based Violence- was observed at the various refugee camps with a series of activities including durbars to sensitize the refugee community.

SPECIAL THANKS TO THE MAJOR DONORS OF UNRESTRICTED REGIONAL FUNDS IN 2019

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LINKS

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