



## HIGHLIGHTS

**12,193**

Ivoirian refugees repatriated with UNHCR assistance since January 2014

**59**

New refugee identity cards distributed during the reporting period

**100**

Refugees interviewed for resettlement consideration

**30**

Tents erected in the internal displacement sites of Olodio

### Population of concern

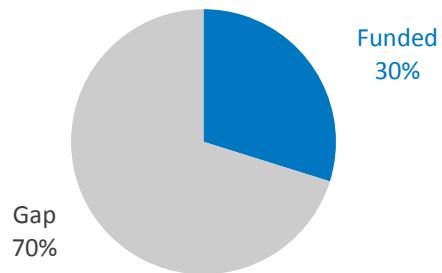
A total of **1,217,318** people of concern

#### By country of origin

Country	Type of PoC	Total
Côte d'Ivoire	Returnees	239,677
Côte d'Ivoire	IDPs	300,000 (est.)
Côte d'Ivoire	Stateless	675,000 (est.)
Misc	Refugees	1,973
Misc	Asylum-seekers	668

### Funding

**USD 24,619,209 million** requested



### UNHCR Presence

#### Staff:

82 national staff  
11 international staff  
4 international UNV

#### Offices:

03 offices located in: Abidjan, Guiglo and Tabou

## WORKING WITH PARTNERS

UNHCR Côte d'Ivoire's implementing and operational partners include the Ivorian Ministries of Foreign Affairs and of Justice, Human Rights and Public Liberties; the *Association de Soutien à l'Auto-promotion Sanitaire Urbaine*; Caritas; the Norwegian Refugee Council; the Danish Refugee Council; Search for Common Ground; the International Organization for Migration; the World Food Program; UNWOMEN; and the UN Office for Project Services.

UNHCR is grateful for the generous contributions of donors who have given un-earmarked or broadly earmarked contributions to UNHCR this year as well as the following donors who have directly contributed to the operation: [Denmark](#) | [Private donors in Japan](#) | [United States of America](#) |

## MAIN ACTIVITIES

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### Repatriation

- Despite the official declaration of Liberia as Ebola-free by the World Health Organization in early May, the borders between Liberia and Côte d'Ivoire remain closed. During the reporting period, UNHCR Côte d'Ivoire engaged in constant dialogue with its Government partners on the practical health and security-related measures that need to be put in place along the borders in order to ensure a safe and dignified return of the Ivorian refugees once the process resumes.
- During the reporting period, UNHCR Côte d'Ivoire facilitated the voluntary repatriation of Ivorian refugees who had fled the country after the post-electoral crisis in late 2010 and found refuge in neighboring countries: eleven returned from Togo in early April and another eleven from Ghana in May. After receiving them in Abidjan, UNHCR Côte d'Ivoire and its partners helped the returnees return to their home towns and villages across the country.

### Statelessness

- UNHCR's field office in Tabou, south-western Côte d'Ivoire, implemented a series of awareness-raising activities in the department of Nawa on the national program to acquire Ivorian nationality through declaration. It was noted that in many localities throughout the south west, the operation has not yet effectively got off the ground due in large part to a lack of information among the population. The office also raised awareness on the risks of statelessness by stressing to groups of new mothers the importance of declaring their children at birth as a key preventive measure, and trained civil status officers in the sub-prefectures of Olodio, Grabo and Djouroutou on the causes and consequences of statelessness.
- The sub-office in Guiglo, western Côte d'Ivoire, organized a profiling mission in the area of Duekoue to identify individuals at risk of statelessness and to analyze their respective cases and profiles. In partnership with the local bureau of the *Service d'Aide et Assistance aux Réfugiés et Apatrides* (SAARA), the office also reinforced the capacities regarding statelessness of civil status agents, midwives and agricultural and educational agents. This capacity-building workshop was followed by a mass awareness-raising activity on the same topic through the showing of the film « *A chacun son papier* ».
- In addition to monitoring the overall conduct of the Government's mobile court operation, which is being deployed to deliver late birth certificates, UNHCR Côte d'Ivoire focused its attention on those applicants who have never been registered in the country's civil status system but whose applications were rejected. While some of these rejections were valid (e.g. the person's place of birth was different from where the request was made), other cases needed to be more closely followed to ensure that they were not at risk of statelessness and to bring them the necessary advice and guidance. The SAARA and UNHCR's Statelessness Team began working on the individual interviews and case analysis.

### Internally displaced persons

- During the reporting period UNHCR Côte d'Ivoire worked on the final report of the profiling exercise launched in late 2014 to assess the displacement situation in the country. The objective of this initiative was to collect data to inform the creation and implementation of a Durable Solutions Strategy, as laid out in the UN-Secretary General's Policy Committee Decision on durable solutions for IDPs and returning refugees in the aftermath of conflict, for which Côte d'Ivoire was chosen as a pilot country. In turn, this Strategy will constitute a key element of the Ivorian Government's *Plan National de Développement*, which is currently being drafted. According to the results of the profiling, which was conducted jointly by the UNHCR and the Ivorian National Statistics Institute, with technical support from the Joint IDP Profiling Service, 300 899 individuals are currently categorized as living in a situation of internal displacement within the country – three quarters (72%) of them since Côte d'Ivoire's latest politico-military crisis in 2010-2011 and the others since the country's first civil war in 2002-2003.
  - As the coordinator of the humanitarian response to the internal displacement in the south-west of the country (Olodio and Grabo), UNHCR Côte d'Ivoire continued to provide assistance to the persons who experienced internal displacement following the persistent unrest in the west and south-west of the country, in and around the villages of Olodio, Grabo, Soklodogba and Dahioke. This assistance, which was informed by participatory evaluations of the
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needs on the ground in both the displacement and return sites, took the form of targeted shelter support, the establishment of community infrastructures (group kitchen, latrines, showers, etc.), the rehabilitation of hydraulic pumps and the chlorination of wells (through UNHCR's partner the Danish Refugee Council), and the distribution of food and non-food items.

- As the coordinator of the international humanitarian response to the crisis, UNHCR Côte d'Ivoire led an inter-agency mission at the beginning of April to assess the return conditions in the IDPs' villages of origin and their reintegration needs. A major conclusion of this evaluation was that many of the IDPs are not prepared to return home until security is effectively restored to the area, despite the efforts undertaken by the local authorities to promote a safe and stable environment. As of late May, the numbers of IDPs in the region were following:
  - Grabo: 2,273
  - Olodio: 1,449
  - Dewake: 52
  - Mere: 23
  - Klodio: 32
  - **TOTAL: 3,829**

## Reintegration

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- Through its partnership with Search For Common Ground (SFCG) UNHCR Côte d'Ivoire trained leaders from over twenty villages in the west of the country on conflict transformation and peaceful coexistence. The villages were chosen because they were identified as being particularly prone to conflict and social cohesion problems and as having received the largest number of returnees. Due to budgetary constraints, the number of village chiefs who could participate in the training was limited. As a result, the participants, with the support of SFCG and using participatory theater performances, organized a report-back session on what they learned. This had the benefit of spreading the information to a much larger number of people, including youth from all the different village communities.

## Resettlement

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- UNHCR Côte d'Ivoire continued to interview refugees who are candidates for resettlement. During the reporting period, the Resettlement Officer assessed 100 cases (36 families), all of which were submitted for consideration to UNHCR's Regional Bureau in Dakar. The Field Office in Tabou organized information sessions with the refugees whose cases have already been submitted as well as those for whom the submission is still pending in order to discuss the various stages of the resettlement process and what the next steps will be.
- The Office assisted the Ivorian Government in the distribution of the new refugee identity cards by facilitating awareness-raising sessions aimed at the national security forces (police, gendarmerie and the *Forces Républicaines de Cote d'Ivoire*), and administrative authorities. The objective of this outreach was to explain the rights attached to this new document, which has been in force since early February 2015 and is valid for five years (in contrast to the previous ID cards, which were only valid for one year). The card is designed to allow refugees to move freely throughout the country and to perform all kinds of civil acts, including financial transactions. During the reporting period, 59 of these new identity cards were distributed throughout the country.



# Côte d'Ivoire: Operational context map

08 May 2015



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