

HIGHLIGHTS

4

Asylum seekers granted refugee status

406

Refugees received their ID Cards

11

Refugees qualified for the DAFI programme

\$3.500LBD

Income from livelihood

Population of concern

A total of **40,256** people of concern

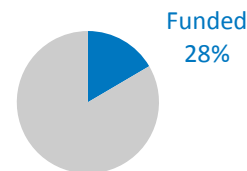
By country of origin

Country	Total PoC
Cote d'Ivoire	38,298
Sierra Leone	380
Mixed nationality	81
Asylum seekers	18
Other persons of concern ¹	1,479
Total	40,256

Funding

USD 34,164,707 requested

Gap
72%



UNHCR Presence

Staff:

95 national staff
26 international staff

Offices:

4 offices located in:
Monrovia, Zwedru, Saclepea, Harper

Liberia: Operational map

UNHCR - HQ 02 Feb 2015



The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.
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¹ Notably refugees' Liberian spouses and children respecting family unity and use UNHCR's facilities

CONTEXT HIGHLIGHTS

During the latest Ebola surge in June and July, a total of 6 persons became infected in the Margibi County (nearby Liberia's International Airport). From 31 August, **only three days are remaining for Liberia to be declared Ebola-free again**. The last time it was declared Ebola-free was 9 May.

Voluntary Repatriation of Ivorian refugees has been **suspended indefinitely** by the Government of Côte d'Ivoire, which committed to continuously monitor the situation on the ground and to allow the resumption of refugee repatriation when the conditions are met.

Within the framework of the upcoming presidential elections in Cote d'Ivoire and Guinea scheduled for October, UNHCR is carrying out contingency plans so as to prepare for massive influxes from both countries take place in case violence erupts.

WORKING WITH PARTNERS

UNHCR works with the Government of Liberia through the Liberia Refugee Repatriation and Resettlement Commission (LRRRC) and coordinates humanitarian assistance with: Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA), Africa Humanitarian Action (AHA), African Initiatives for Relief and Development (AIRD), CARE International, Caritas Cape Palmas, Finn Church Aid (FCA), Finnish Refugee Council (FRC), Save the Children International (SCI), and Special Emergency Activity to Restore Children's Hope (SEARCH).

MAIN ACTIVITIES

Protection

- Of the 750 refugee identification cards issued during the month, 406 have been handed out. Refugee identity document guarantees refugees to legally remain in the country of asylum. With an identity card, refugees will **access aid and protection assistance** UNHCR coordinates and provides.
- The Eligibility Commission has met once again to assess cases of new asylum seekers. As a result **4 cases have been decided upon and were granted refugee status**.

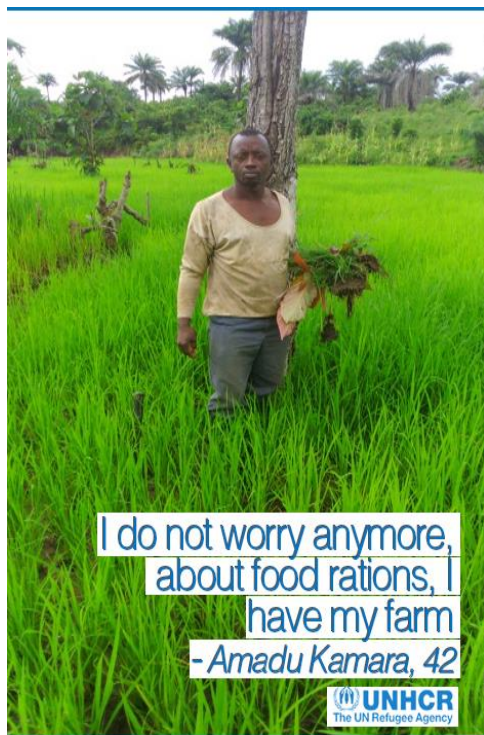
Education

- As a result of UNHCR's advocacy, the **Ministry of Education in Liberia agreed to keep schools in refugee camps open** during August to enable final exams to be conducted (exams are equivalent to the Ivorian National Exams for all grades). Additionally, certificates of the past academic year would be signed by the County Education and District Education Officers. The Ministry of Education will support the training of the Ivorian teachers in the Liberian curriculum and pedagogy in view of the gradual curriculum transition. Besides, field based coordination meetings were agreed upon to strengthen coordination amongst education actors at the field level.
- UNHCR and its partner, SEARCH, jointly carried out the pre-screening exercise for the DAFI Scholarship applications. Out of the 24 applicants (16 male, 8 female), **11 refugees (9 male, 2 female) qualified** based on the requirements outlined by the scholarship programme, of which five will be chosen.

Health and Food Security

- The August food distribution was completed in all three refugee camps. A total of **29,332 refugees received their monthly food ration**.

Community Empowerment and Self-Reliance



- Given the indefinite postponement of voluntary repatriation, Ivorian refugees are increasingly being engaged in agricultural activities, notably on low land cultivation. A total of 4.5 hectares were prepared and rice was planted on 4 of those hectares. In vegetable production, ADRA, a UNHCR partner, managed the cultivation of a new vegetable nursery and vegetables like cabbage, onions and spinach were planted. In addition, refugees harvested 100 kg of bitter ball (a local vegetable) and generated **\$3,500 Liberian Dollars (around \$43 USD) from the sale**.
- Given the increasing unemployment rate in Liberia, **urban-based refugees are being engaged in livelihood activities** to enable them to become self-reliant, including trainings in marketable skills for non-skilled refugees and supporting business initiatives for self-employed refugees.

Others

- UNHCR has officially donated a truck to the Ministry of Internal Affairs which was lent during the Ebola outbreak. The truck was provided to the Ministry to support the **government's efforts for the Ebola Response**.

UNHCR is grateful for the generous contributions of donors who have provided non-earmarked funding to UNHCR as well as the following donors who have directly contributed to the Liberia operation so far in 2015: [USA](#) | [Denmark](#) | [Japan](#) | [UN Population Fund](#) | [UN Program on HIV/AIDS](#)

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