



HIGHLIGHTS

821

Refugees voluntary repatriated throughout December 2016

19,843

Ivorian refugees repatriated since 18 December 2015

83

Convoys have been used to repatriate refugees since 18 December 2015

18,552

Ivorian refugees remaining in Liberia as of December 2016

Population of concern

A total of **19,007** Persons of Concern

By country of origin

Country	Total PoC
Côte-d'Ivoire refugees	18,552
Sierra Leonean refugees	376
Various nationality refugees	62
Asylum seekers	17
Total	19,007
Others of concern	1,479

Funding

USD 23,860,907 requested



UNHCR Presence

Offices

- 1 Country Office in Monrovia
- 1 Sub-Office in Zwedru
- 2 Field Offices in Harper and Saclepea

Staff

- 92 national staff
- 23 international staff

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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WORKING WITH PARTNERS

UNHCR works with the Government of Liberia through the Liberia Refugee Repatriation and Resettlement Commission (LRRRC) and provides funding to the following NGOs: Africa Humanitarian Action (AHA), African Initiatives for Relief and Development (AIRD), and Special Emergency Activity to Restore Children's Hope (SEARCH), to implement assistance in favour of refugees. Finnish Refugee Council, an operational partner supports adult literacy in PTP and Bahn camps.

CONTEXT HIGHLIGHTS

The improvement of weather and road conditions has allowed 821 refugees to voluntarily repatriate from all three camps: PTP Camp, Bahn Camp, and Little Wlebo Camp.

Saclepea Office is officially closed as of 31 December 2016. Several UNHCR Partners attended the farewell event on 16 December 2016, such as the Liberia Refugee Repatriation and Resettlement Commission (LRRRC), the City Major of Bahn and Saclepea Comprehensive Hospital. They all expressed gratitude and appreciation towards the work of UNHCR, which has included the building of infrastructures (schools, health centers).

The Ministry of Education (MoE) has nominated the three Principals that will lead all refugee schools in Saclepea, Zwedru and Harper.

MAIN ACTIVITIES

Protection

- Voluntary repatriation remains a key operational priority.** 821 refugees were repatriated to Cote d'Ivoire during this period. This brings the total number of refugees repatriated since the resumption of the repatriation programme on 18 December 2015 to 19,843 refugees and out of them, 18,729 have returned since January 2016, including 30 unaccompanied children reunited with their families by the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC).
- Mission to Re-vet Red-Coded Cases.** The mission to re-vet former Liberian refugees at risk of statelessness after the Government of Liberia red-coded them on nationality grounds, visited Sierra Leone, where 266 Red Coded Cases had been reported. The team re-vetted the 161 persons who showed up with 31 dependents totaling 192. The total number of red coded cases identified out of the 910 are 561 with 148 dependents bringing the total number of persons re-vetted to 709. 325 cases have been no show in the 6 countries. The team had previously visited Ghana, Gambia, Guinea, Nigeria and Senegal Cote d'Ivoire and Mali could identify 1 case each out of 17 and 7 respectively.
- Education Transition continues.** As part of the process of transitioning from Ivorian curriculum to Liberian curriculum, the handover of all refugee schools to the Ministry of Education (MoE) moves forward. The 3 Principals, nominated by the MoE, have been officially introduced and have started to take function in their new posts in the schools at Bahn, Little Wlebo and PTP camp. All primary schools at refugee camps will transition to Liberian curriculum in the second semester (February-June 2017).
- Joint UN and Government Programme on SGBV.** An MoU has been signed between the Minister of Gender and the UN Resident Coordinator on the behalf of five UN Agencies (UNHCR, UNDP, UNICEF, UNWOMEN, UNFPA) that take part in the joint programming initiative to prevent and respond to SGBV and harmful traditional practices in Liberia. The Programme focuses on five areas: prevention, response, institutional strengthening, advocacy, and social mobilization and coordination. The Swedish government has contributed 30 million SEK to the Programme and signed a 3-year funding agreement with UN WOMEN, the lead agency. The five UN Agencies will benefit from this contribution based on the area of implementation.
- Closure of Saclepea Office.** The Field Office Saclepea, first established in 2003, has officially closed as of 31 December 2016. The Liberia Refugee Repatriation and Resettlement Commission (LRRRC) will continue to manage Bahn camp, and the school at the refugee camp is in the process of being handed over to the Ministry of Education. In addition, Saclepea Comprehensive Hospital will continue to offer free treatment for all refugees visiting the hospital, after the departure of UNHCR from Nimba County.

Celebration of International Days

- World AIDS Day, 1 December.** Activities and informative sessions were held in all three field offices. The AHA (Africa Humanitarian Action) team also offered counseling and HIV/AIDS testing sessions, along with the distribution of condoms. LRRRC, SEARCH and UNHCR jointly organized activities in Monrovia.
- International Day of Persons with Disabilities, 3 December.** UNHCR, LRRRC, partners, disabled refugees and many others, participated in parades in PTP camp, showcasing messages such as "Stop violence against the disabled" and "Respect the rights of people with disability".
- 16 Days of Activism, 25 November - 10 December.** The Commemoration of the 16 Days of Activism against Gender Violence in Liberia was celebrated in the three field offices amongst informative sessions on Teenage Pregnancy and Child Marriage, parades, and the showcasing of posters with this year's themes: 'From Peace in the Home to Peace in the World; Make Education Safe for All' and 'From Peace in the Home to Peace in the World; Stop Domestic Violence, End Child Marriage while Educating All'. It ended successfully on 10 December 2016.



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